さすがの猿飛 6

Shonen Sunday Comics

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小学館

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BOOK・OFF

SASUGA NO SARU

JUST ASK ANYBODY AROUND THE ACADEMY AND THEY'LL REGALE YOU WITH A STORY OF LOVE BURNING HOTTER THAN THE SUN. YES, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE SHINOBI WORLD'S NUMBER ONE BEST COUPLE, THE ADORABLE MAKO AND HER PUDGY BEAU, NIKUMARU. HOWEVER, WOULD YOU BELIEVE THAT THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS ABOUT TO HIT A SUDDEN RED LIGHT!? WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF MAKO'S MOTHER, AKO, THINGS ARE ABOUT TO SPIRAL COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL!!

TOBI SASUGA!

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Shonen Sunday Comics

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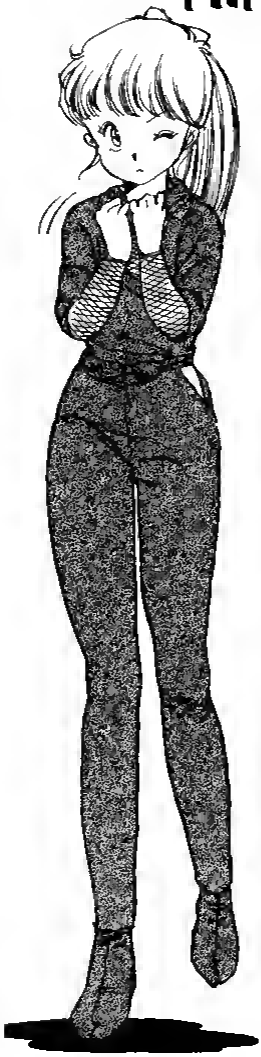
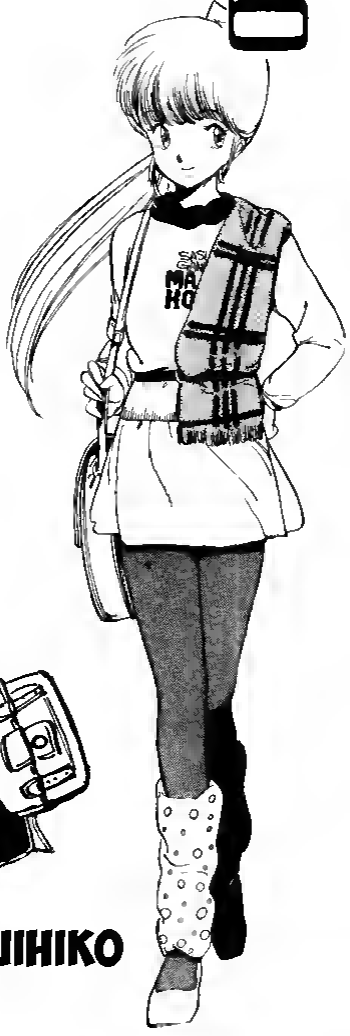
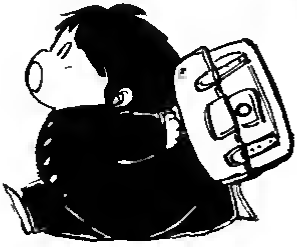
ACADEMY OF NINJAS VOLUME 6







HOSONO FUJIHIKO

FOR REASONS UNKNOWN, OUR STORY'S FOCUS IS THE WACKY EVENTS RELATED TO A MODERN DAY NINJA'S EVERYDAY, YET, EXTRAORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL LIFE. NIKUMARU, GRANDSON OF THE INSTITUTE'S FOUNDER, DEDICATES HIS TIME IMPROVING HIS SKILLS AT A CERTAIN SHINOBI ACADEMY. JUST AS HIS NAME IMPLIES, NIKUMARU THE MEATBALL OFTEN SPENDS MORE TIME CHOWING DOWN (OR THINKING ABOUT THE BEAUTIFUL KIRIGA MAKO) THAN FOCUSING ON EXCELLING WITH HIS TECHNIQUE. NATURALLY, HIS GLUTTONY IMPACTS HIS SUCCESS IN BOTH NINJA SKILLS AND ROMANCE. HOWEVER, DON'T UNDERESTIMATE NIKUMARU'S NAMESAKE, THE 'EXPLOSIVE' KAMIKAZE NO JUTSU. MAKO, DAUGHTER OF THE ACADEMY'S HEADMASTER, HAS ASTONISHINGLY FALLEN HEAD OVER HEELS FOR NIKUMARU. WHEN BOTTOMLESS STOMACHS AND PERVERTED HIJINKS COLLIDE, EVERY DAY AT THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS IS AN ABSOLUTE RIOT. HOWEVER, AN UNPREDICTABLE OBSTACLE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER FOR THE ACCLAIMED NUMBER ONE BEST COUPLE OF THE SHINOBI WORLD. IS THEIR RELATIONSHIP SPEEDING TOWARDS A HEAD-ON COLLISION!?

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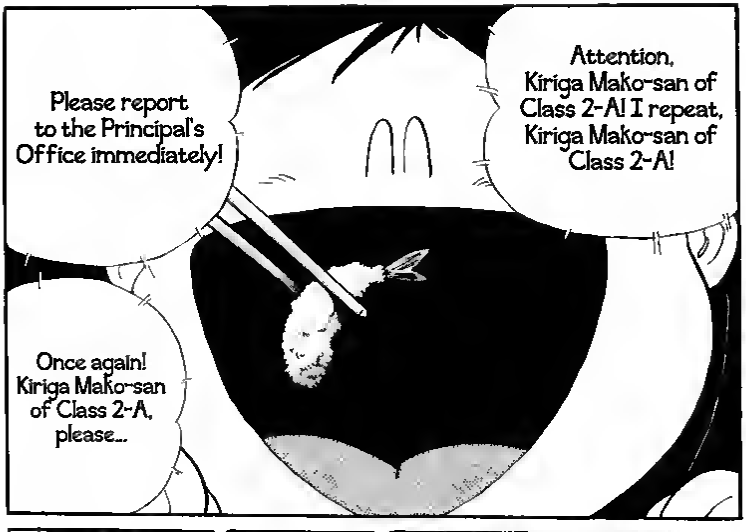
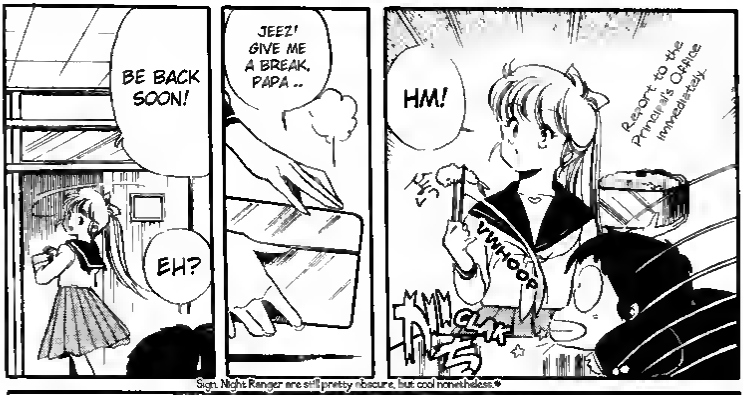
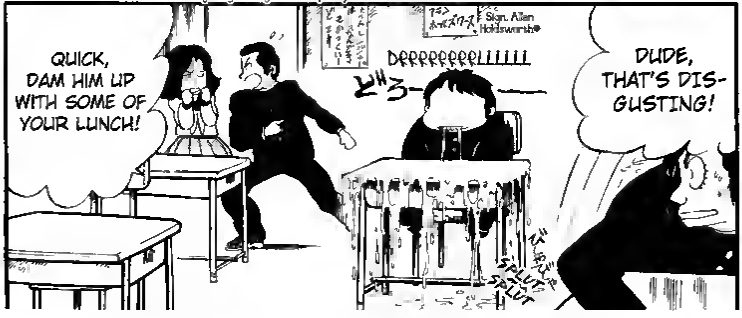
HOSONO FUJIHIKO

A Situation Most Serious


Attention, Kiriga Mako-san of Class 2-A! I repeat, Kiriga Mako-san of Class 2-A!
Please report to the Principal's Office immediately!
Once again! Kiriga Mako-san of Class 2-A, please...

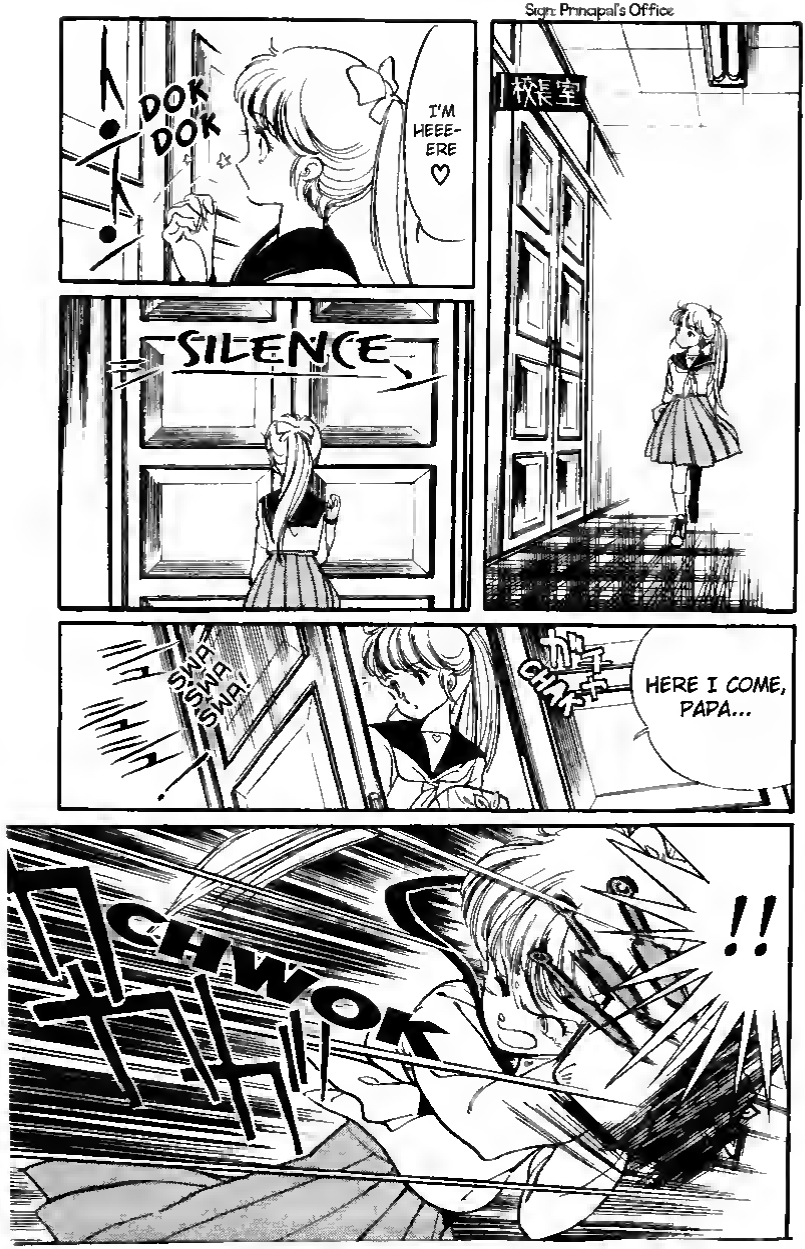


Sign. Night Ranger are still pretty obscure, but cool nonetheless.*



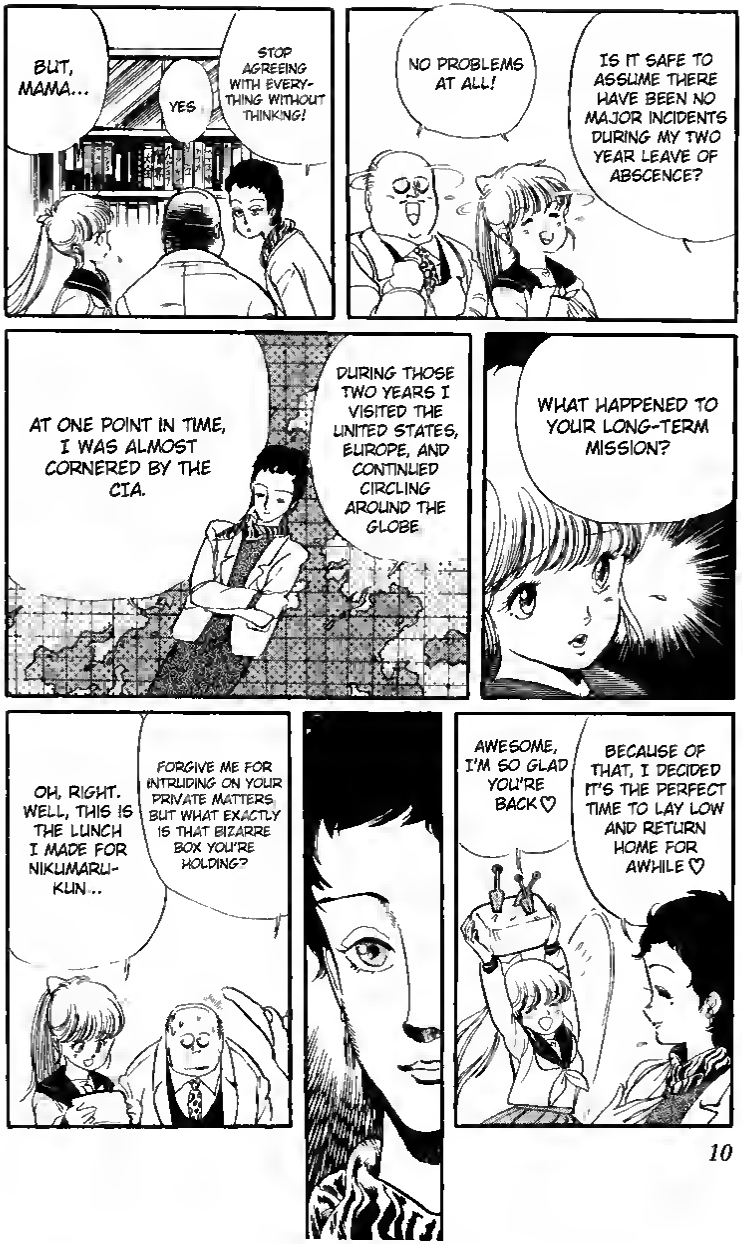
NOTE. HOLDSWORTH IS A FAMOUS ROCK AND JAZZ FUSION GUITARIST.

NOTE. NIGHT RANGER IS AN OLD 1980S HAIR METAL BAND CURRENTLY (2012) THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE A COMEBACK.


Sign: Principal's Office
DOK DOK
I'M HEEE-ERE ♡
校長室
SILENCE
SWA! SWA! SWA!
ガチャ
HERE I COME, PAPA...
CHWOK
!!

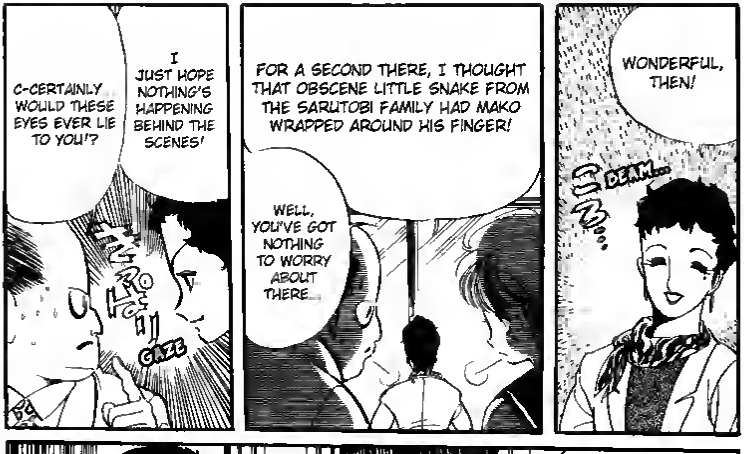
WAIT, THESE RED KUNAI COULD ONLY MEAN...!
MAKO...ERR, KIRIGA-KUN! BE MORE CAREFUL IN THE FUTURE!
W-WELL, I CERTAINLY DO.
YOU SIMPLY MUST AGREE THAT THERE IS TO BE A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN TEACHER AND STUDENT, YOU ARE THE PRINCIPAL AFTER ALL!
ALTHOUGH, THIS IS HARDLY THE APPROPRIATE PLACE FOR A REUNION, THIS OFFICE WILL UNFORTUNATELY HAVE TO DO ♡
THAT VOICE...

くるん!
SPIN!
OH, MAKO, YOU LOOK SIMPLY DELIGHTFUL!
YES, I'M BACK!
MA-MA!!
NEVERTHE-LESS...
SLOW DOWN, I JUST ARRIVED NOT THAT LONG AGO♡ NATURALLY, THE FIRST THING ON MY LIST WAS TO RENDEZVOUS WITH YOU TWO AT THE ACADEMY.
WHEN DID YOU GET BACK? HOW COME YOU DIDN'T VISIT THE HOUSE!?


BUT, MAMA...
YES
STOP AGREEING WITH EVERY-THING WITHOUT THINKING!
NO PROBLEMS AT ALL!
IS IT SAFE TO ASSUME THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR INCIDENTS DURING MY TWO YEAR LEAVE OF ABSCENCE?
AT ONE POINT IN TIME, I WAS ALMOST CORNERED BY THE CIA.
DURING THOSE TWO YEARS I VISITED THE UNITED STATES, EUROPE, AND CONTINUED CIRCLING AROUND THE GLOBE
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR LONG-TERM MISSION?
OH, RIGHT. WELL, THIS IS THE LUNCH I MADE FOR NIKUMARU-KUN...
FORGIVE ME FOR INTRUDING ON YOUR PRIVATE MATTERS. BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT BIZARRE BOX YOU'RE HOLDING?
AWESOME, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE BACK♡
BECAUSE OF THAT, I DECIDED IT'S THE PERFECT TIME TO LAY LOW AND RETURN HOME FOR AWHILE♡

UMM... WAIT...NO... JUST LET ME...
NIKUMARU...
OOPS...
TELL ME, MAKO. DID YOU JUST SAY NIKU-MARUUUUUU?
ZAWA ZAWA ZAWA
O-OF COURSE, MY DEAR DAUGHTER! I WOULD NEVER MISTAKE THE WORDS COMING FROM YOUR MOUTH!
YEAH, I TOTALLY SAID NIKUMAN, RIGHT!?*
GOOD CALL, PAPA! YOU HEARD WHAT I SAID WITH YOUR OWN TWO EARS, DIDN'T YOU!?
OH, SHE MUST HAVE MEANT THAT UHHH NIKUMAN! RIGHT, I REMEMBER SEEING MAKO PUT SOME TASTY MEAT BUNS IN HER LUNCH THIS MORNING...

NOTE: IN CASE YOU'RE NEW TO THE WHOLE JAPAN THING: NIKUMAN ARE STEAMED MEAT BUNS GENERALLY FILLED WITH PORK.


C-CERTAINLY WOULD THESE EYES EVER LIE TO YOU!?
I JUST HOPE NOTHING'S HAPPENING BEHIND THE SCENES!
GAZE
FOR A SECOND THERE, I THOUGHT THAT OBSCENE LITTLE SNAKE FROM THE SARUTOBI FAMILY HAD MAKO WRAPPED AROUND HIS FINGER!
WELL, YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT THERE...
WONDERFUL, THEN!
DEAR...
MAAAAAA-AAAAAAAKO-CHAAAAN ♡♡♡
M-MAAAKO-CHAN?
OH, SILLY OLD ME♡
MRGH! MMPH! URRMMM!
WHAT'S THE HOLDUUUUP? I'M STARVING TO DEATH WITHOUT LU-MPH...
LOVER

WHAT KINDA WIFE SMASHES HER HUSBAND LIKE THAT..
HEY, THAT REALLY HURT!
IMPACT!
EH?
YOU KNOW HOW PAPA LOVES HIS PRACTICAL JOKES
W-WHATEVER SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLE, MAMA?
SQUIRM
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE YOUR MOTHER, MAKO!

STEP ASIDE!!
DOK
BWOING

...
FLAP FLAP
Kləkkdəkkdəkkkək
NOW, LET'S TAKE THIS ONE STEP AT A TIME, DARLING...
MAMA...?
FLIP FLIP FLIP
SHFFF
!
Book Entry 15
Sarutobi Nikumaru
15 猿飛肉丸
Book Entry 16
Sawatari Taka
16 沢渡 高
FLIP
BOOK CLASS REGISTRY

HMMM, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, MY OVERSEAS MISSION BEGAN SOMETIME IN JUNE...
ENROLLED IN THE ACADEMY DURING JULY 197X, IRREGULARLY PLACED IN CLASS 1-A PARTWAY THROUGH THE SCHOOL YEAR...
MY, WHAT A COINCIDENCE...
DARLING!
THUD
DONK
SO YOU WERE BEHIND EVERYTHING!?
YOU WERE WAITING UNTIL THE MOMENT I WAS GONE TO PULL THIS STUNT!?
FORGIVE ME! DON'T KILL ME, PLEASE!
STOP IT, MAMA! PAPA ISN'T THE ONLY ONE INVOLVED!
DON'T WORRY, MY WONDERFUL DAUGHTER, YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY YOU'RE HIS ACCOMPLICE!?
I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG THE MINUTE I LEFT JAPAN! LO AND BEHOLD, YOU TWO WERE PLOTTING BEHIND MY BACK!
WITHOUT MY PROTECTION, YOU LEAPED AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE WITH THAT SARUTOBI WORM!!
SO WHAT!?
WHAT'S SO WRONG ABOUT WANTING TO BE TOGETHER WITH NIKUMARU-KUN!?

I DESPISE THEM!
I CANNOT STAND THE ROTTEN SCUM BORN FROM THE SARUTOBI HOUSE-HOLD!
What hap-pened...?
What on earth could have hap-pened in the past to make Mama's eyes so full of sadness...?
AT THIS RATE, DOUBT I CAN EVEN GO BACK INSIDE THE SCHOOL...
HOPE MAKO-CHAN'S MAMA HIGH-TAILS IT OUTTA HERE SOMETIME SOON..

DISINHERITED! DISINHERITED! DIS!IN!HERITEE EEEEEED!!
ZWHOOP
STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM MY DAUGHTER, REJECT!
COME BACK SOON, HONEY♡
HEARD YOU THE FIRST TIME, OLD MAN DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU REPEAT YOURSELF, I'M NOT GIVING UP UNTIL YOU CRUMBLE!
DASH
UNTIL NEXT TIME!
LISTEN, SON, THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN YOU'RE NUMBER'S UP IN THIS HOSTILE WORLD! YOU'D DO WELL TO REMEMBER YOUR FATHER'S FACE IN THESE DESPERATE MOMENTS!
SURE, DAD, I'LL REMEMBER
THANK THE GODS I WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE WITH MY LIFE

WRITE 'POSITIVE' OUT TWENTY TIMES ON THE POST...
POSITIVE
CALLIGRAPHY PEN
ONE, TWO, THREE...
CLENCH
STRESS REDUCTION TECHNIQUES.
WATCHA DOIN? HUHHHH? WHATCHA DOIN?
RUSTLE
MAKO-CHAN'S WAITING!!
ZWHIP
COMING, ONE SECOND..
NIKUMARU, ARE YOU HOME YET? THE PHONE'S FOR YOU!
MAMA'S PERSONALITY IS A LITTLE... EXTREME.
I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT HAPPENED TODAY ♡
Don't worry about it too much. I'm not.
SO, WHAT'S UP!?
YEP, YOU GOT IT! JUST MADE IT BACK HOME!

WELL, WHAT HAPPENED AFTER I TOOK OFF?
HUH? YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE WENT?
CLATTER...
Exactly... She never came back home. Nobody knows where she could be!
UHHH, I THINK I FOUND YOUR MOM. SHE'S AT MY PLACE!
WELL, WELL, WELL. IF IT ISN'T KIRIGA-SAN
WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE TRAVELLING ACROSS THE WORLD ON SOME TOP-SECRET ASSIGNMENT?
HELLOOOO, ARE YOU LISTENING? NIKUMARU-KUN, PAY ATTENTION!
ANY-WAYS!
NIKUMARU-KUN?

EARLIER, I VISITED THE ACADEMY.
I JUST RETURNED THIS MORNING!
SUDDENLY, THE IDEA DAWNED ON ME TO PAY A VISIT TO HAPPOUSAI-SENSEI
WAIT, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER? DEFINITELY FEELS STRANGE WELCOMING ANOTHER WIFE INTO MY HOME.
I SEE. WELL, THIS IS HARDLY THE PLACE TO HOLD A CONVERSATION...
TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE TIME I'VE SPENT TRAVELING THE WORLD, IT'S BEEN AT LEAST FIVE YEARS!
INDEED!
MAKE NO MISTAKE, OUR CHILDHOOD DISPUTES REMAIN FIRMLY UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES...
Nikumaru-kun!
What do you mean she's there?
Hel-loooo?

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED SOMEONE MIGHT HAVE PERSONAL MATTERS TO ATTEND TO!? HONESTLY!
HOW ABOUT WE MAKE UP FOR ALL THAT LOST TIME, HUH? LITTLE MISS TROPHY WIFE?
OH, MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES!
TOK TOK TOK
Nikuma-
CHAK
MMH? SOMEBODY HERE?
TMP
!

PERSONALLY, I SUPPORT NIKUMARU AND MAKO-CHAN'S PURE LOVE...
Gachunk
Kachacha...
EH, KASUMI...?
DID YOUR SON INHERIT HIS IMPUDENCE FROM YOUR SIDE OF THE FAMILY, THEN?
Gachunk Kachunk
Gachunk Kachunk...
DON'T PLAY STUPID WITH ME! THANKS TO YOU AND YOUR FREAKISH BRAT'S DECEPTION, MY DAUGHTER HAS LOST HER MIND!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
WAY TO BEAT AROUND THE BUSH, AKO!
KACHUNK GACHUNK
GACHUNK
KACHUNK GACHUNK
GACHUNK

YOU HEARD WHAT I SAID! THIEVERY MUST RUN IN YOUR GENETICS. AFTER ALL, YOUR CHILD BASICALLY INFILTRATED MAKO'S CLASS AND USED UNDERHANDED TACTICS TO POLLUTE HER PURE HEART!
DECEP-TION...!?
PFFFF!
POLLUTE HER!?
PFFFFFFFFA-HAAHAHHA-HAHA!!
SERIOUSLY, PULL YOUR HEAD OUT FROM YOUR BACKSIDE AND TAKE A GOOD LOOK BEFORE MAKING JUDGMENTS LIKE THAT MASTER-PIECE! HAHAHA!
NIKUMARU CAN BARELY PLAN OUT HIS SNACKING SCHEDULE, LET ALONE DE-CEIVE AN ACTUAL PERSON!
CHUCKLE
AKO, AREN'T YOU GIVING FAR TOO MUCH CREDIT WHERE IT ISN'T DESERVED?
DRIP DRIP
PFFFFWAA-HAHAHA!

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, PEOPLE LIKE YOU...
HONESTLY, IF ANYTHING, MAKO-CHAN WAS THE ONE WHO HAD TO SCREW NIKUMARU'S HEAD ON STRAIGHT TO GET THINGS ROLLING!
ALTHOUGH, I SUPPOSE I CAN ACCEPT THAT AS A COMPLIMENT FROM THE STINGIEST MEMBER OF THE KIRIGA HOUSEHOLD...
NEVER CHANGE NO MATTER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THEY'RE IN!
HM!
KRAK!
PERHAPS YOU SHOULDN'T SPIT AT OTHERS IN THE FIRST PLACE!
DEAR ME! SEEMS I'VE MISPLACED MY HANDKER-CHIEF
DASH
CRUSHING SOMEONE'S FEELINGS WITH HIGH-HEELED SHOES IS FAR MORE EFFECTIVE!
KRGH!
ふみつけ
Trample

LISTEN CLOSELY, KASUMI!
YOUR DESPICABLE SON'S ATTEMPT TO PLANT HIS GREASY MITTS ON MY MAKO IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF AN UNAVOIDABLE BLOODY CONFRONTATION!!
!
GRITTTTND
MAKO'S MOM IS HORRIFYING..

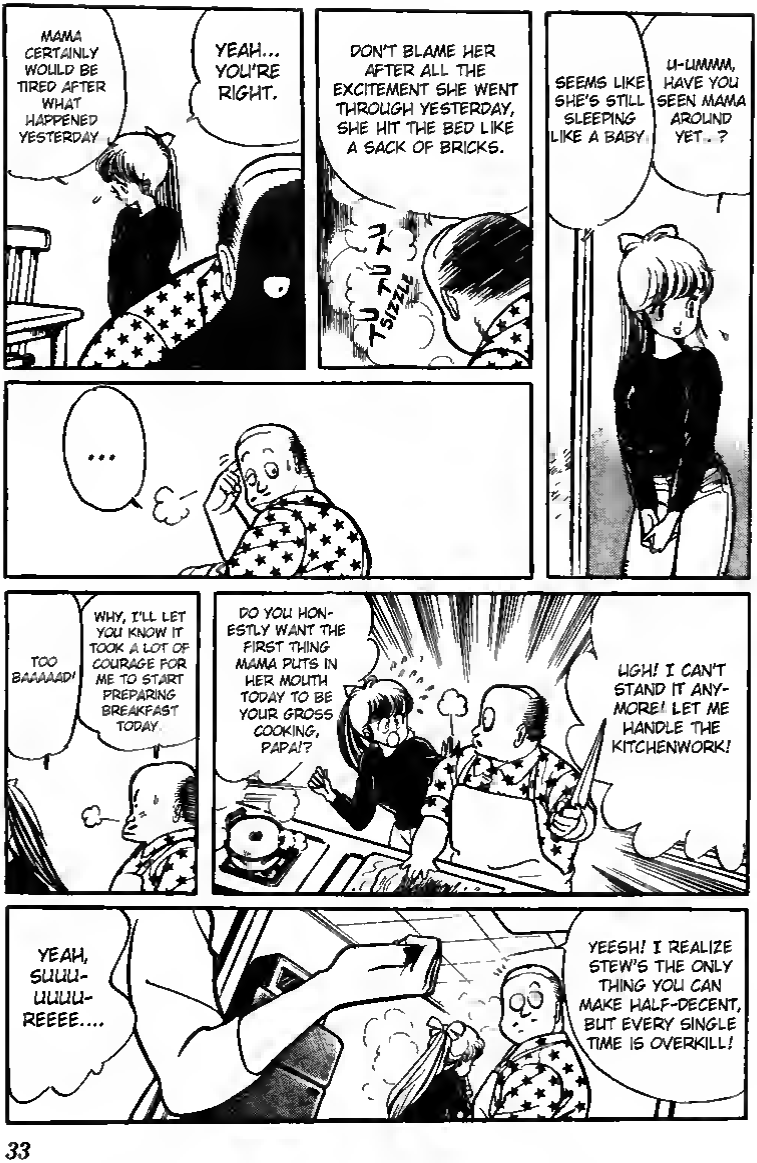
I'M SURE SHE'S JUST CRANKY FROM THE JET-LAG..
PLEASE, MA'AM, EXCUSE MY MOTHER WHILE SHE COOLS HER HEAD OFF!
FOOLISH DAUGHTER OF MINE! YOU'RE PLAYING RIGHT INTO THEIR HANDS!
I'LL NEVER LET THIS GO!
STOP THIS RIGHT NOW, MAMA!!
MARK MY WORDS, KASUMI!
MAMA, SHOULDN'T WE HEAD HOME NOW...?
WATCH YOUR BACK, KASUMI! DON'T TAKE ME LIGHTLY!
SURE THING...
MY HUSBAND'S GOT MY BACK ON THIS, YOU'RE OUTNUMBERED!
PARENTS HAVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS TO TAKE CARE OF, MAKE SURE YOUR MOM WORKS THEM OUT PROPERLY!
I'M NOT UPSET IN THE SLIGHTEST, MAKO-CHAN!
AL-RIGHT♡

SEEMS YOU'VE ALL MADE THE MISTAKE OF FORGETTING THAT I'M ON THE BOARD COMMITTEE FOR THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS!
YOU MAY HAVE WON THE BATTLE, BUT THE WAR IS MINE!
!
かはははは
GWAHAHAHAHAHA
OWCH

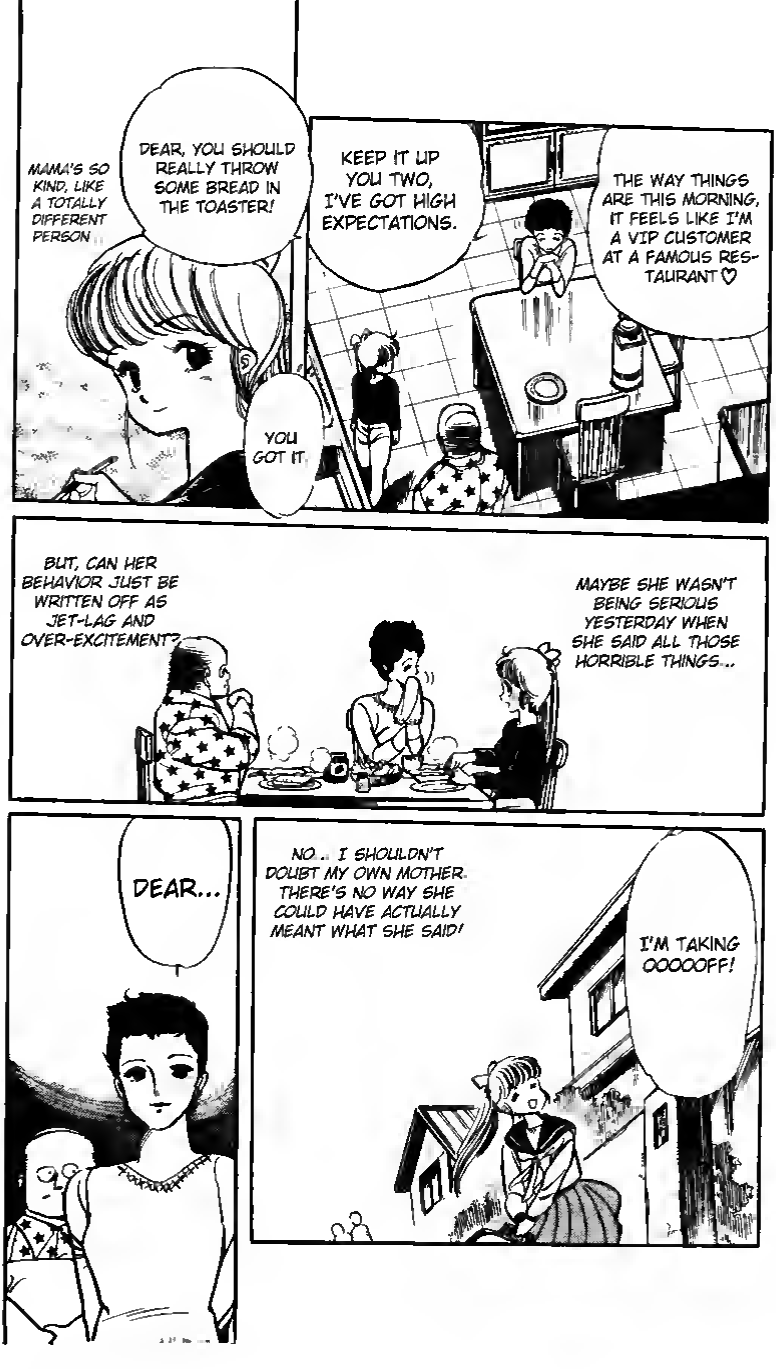
Love Stopped By A Red Light
CONTINUE YOUR RECKLESS RELATIONS WITH THAT SARUTOBI MAGGOT AND YOUR MOTHER WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
LISTEN CLOSELY, MAKO!
WHY SHOULD I SIMPLY AGREE TO YOUR HEARTLESS DEMANDS?
I REFUSE, MAMA!
NO!
SHFFFF
PFF
MFFF
PWEEE
TSSSS
FWUFFF
SSSSTH
UNFORGIVABLE!!
ドPOPス
NIKUMARU-KUN, COME BAAAAACK!!
BLASTING OFF AGAIN

NOTE: THESE ARE OTHER WORKS BY THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS CREATOR.
SS comiks
THANKS A BUNCH!
GO GO GANNO
ガンちゃ
VOLUMES 1-5 ON SALE NOW!!
DEADBEAT DOCTOR
ドクター
VOLUMES 1-4, THE WHOLE SERIES ON SALE!!
Love Stopped By A Red Light
SHABOOOOOOOOOM

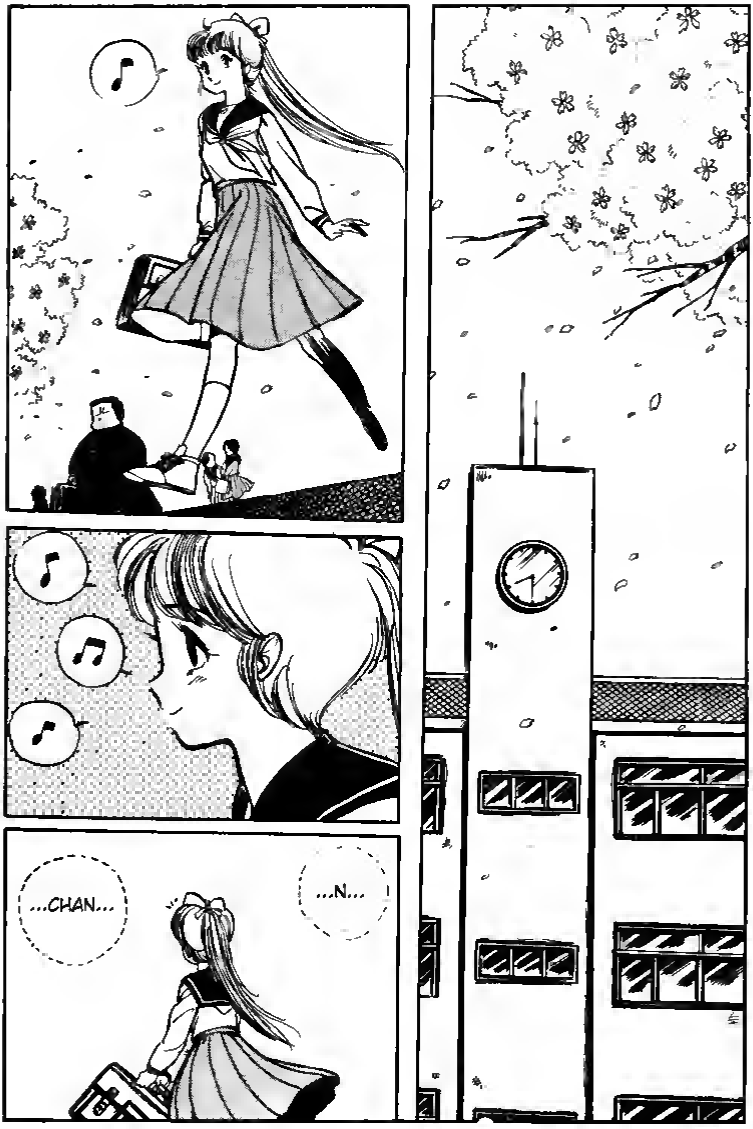
WEEP.
AAA-AHHH...
NOOOOO-OOOOOO-OOOOOO!
MORNING, PAPA♡
TOP O' THE MORNIN TO YA, MAKO ME DEAR!
PEEK


MAMA CERTAINLY WOULD BE TIRED AFTER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.
DON'T BLAME HER AFTER ALL THE EXCITEMENT SHE WENT THROUGH YESTERDAY, SHE HIT THE BED LIKE A SACK OF BRICKS.
SEEMS LIKE SHE'S STILL SLEEPING LIKE A BABY
U-UMMM, HAVE YOU SEEN MAMA AROUND YET..?
...
TOO BAAAAAD!
WHY, I'LL LET YOU KNOW IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE FOR ME TO START PREPARING BREAKFAST TODAY.
DO YOU HONESTLY WANT THE FIRST THING MAMA PUTS IN HER MOUTH TODAY TO BE YOUR GROSS COOKING, PAPA!?
UGH! I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE! LET ME HANDLE THE KITCHENWORK!
YEAH, SUUU-UUUU-REEEE....
YEESH! I REALIZE STEW'S THE ONLY THING YOU CAN MAKE HALF-DECENT, BUT EVERY SINGLE TIME IS OVERKILL!

AH...
YAAAAWN~ I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO COMPLETELY WAKE UP...
THE ENTIRE TWO YEARS THAT I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM HOME, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO TEST-RUN MAKO'S COOKING.
MMM-MMM, SMELLS DELIGHTFUL♡
EVEN GOING SO FAR TO TAKE CARE OF THE COOKING, I'M ASTONISHED.
...
OH DEAR, YOU TWO ARE ALREADY HUSTLING AND BUSTLING IN THE KITCHEN. I'M SIMPLY EMBARRASSED AS A MOTHER.


MAMA'S SO KIND, LIKE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSON...
DEAR, YOU SHOULD REALLY THROW SOME BREAD IN THE TOASTER!
YOU GOT IT.
KEEP IT UP YOU TWO, I'VE GOT HIGH EXPECTATIONS.
THE WAY THINGS ARE THIS MORNING, IT FEELS LIKE I'M A VIP CUSTOMER AT A FAMOUS RESTAURANT ♡
BUT, CAN HER BEHAVIOR JUST BE WRITTEN OFF AS JET-LAG AND OVER-EXCITEMENT?
MAYBE SHE WASN'T BEING SERIOUS YESTERDAY WHEN SHE SAID ALL THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS...
DEAR...
NO .. I SHOULDN'T DOUBT MY OWN MOTHER. THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD HAVE ACTUALLY MEANT WHAT SHE SAID!
I'M TAKING OOOOOFF!

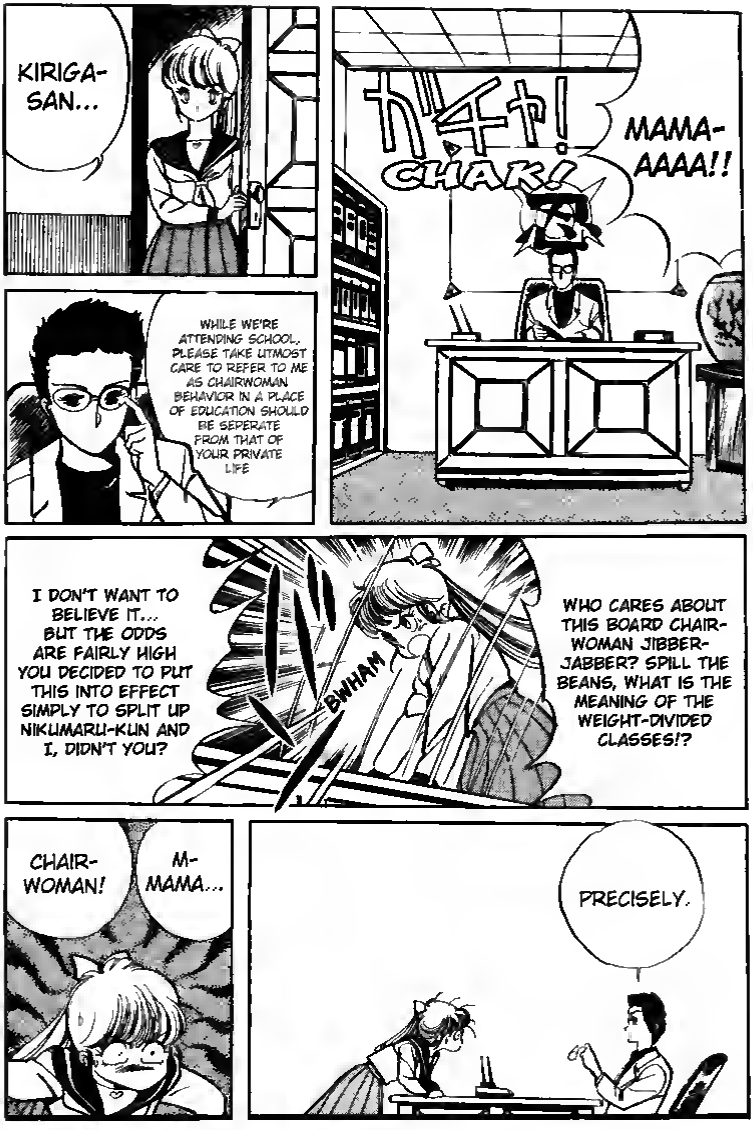
C-COME NOW, WHAT'S WITH THE FORMALITY? I'M HER FATHER AFTER ALL, OF COURSE I'D RAISE HER RIGHT!
HM?
BOW
ペコ!!
YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE. DURING MY TIME AWAY, YOU'VE MANAGED TO PROPERLY RAISE OUR DAUGHTER. A FATHER'S WISDOM KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES.
ONE MISTAKE I CANNOT ALLOW TO DEVELOP ANY FURTHER...
ASIDE FROM ONE THING...
SUCH A SPLENDID DAUGHTER WE HAVE
WE NEED TO SIT DOWN AND HAVE A SERIOUS FAMILY TALK.
Y-YES!?
DEAR!!
TWITCH


...CHAN...
...N...

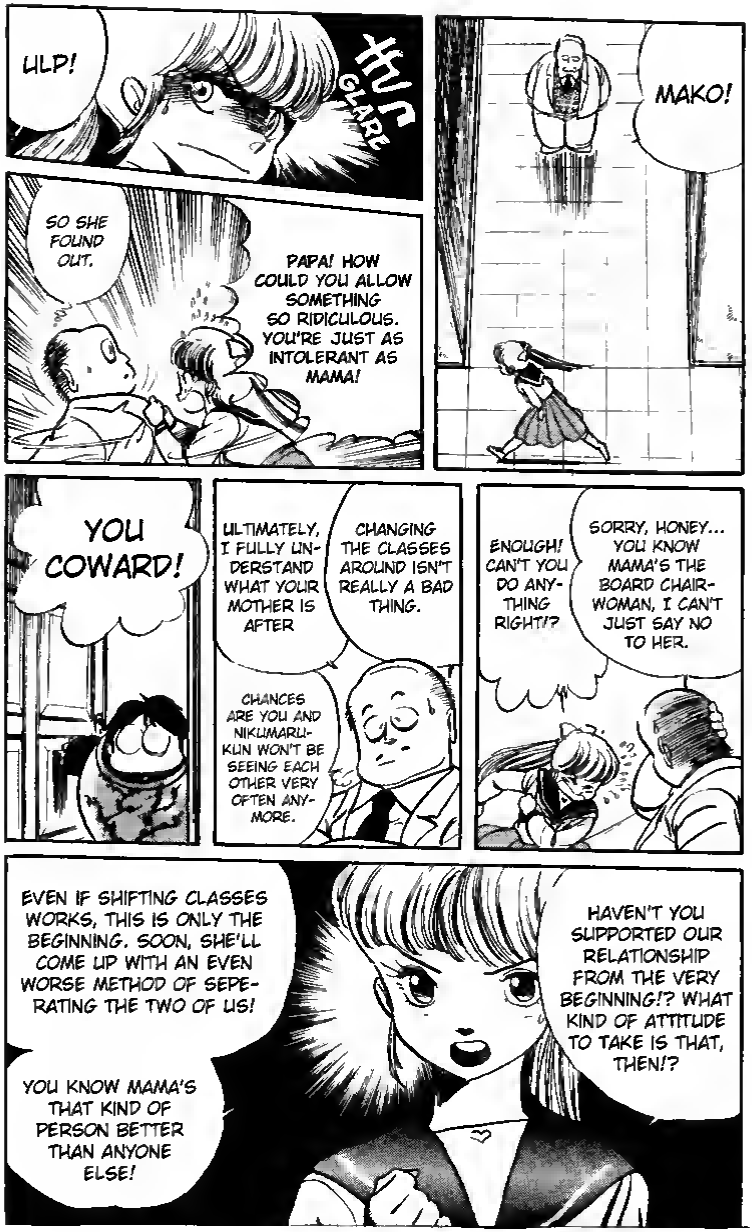
MAKO-CHAAAN...
MAKO-CHAN...
WHAT IS IT'? IF YOU WANT MY ATTENTION, STOP BEING SO QUIET ABOUT IT, NIKUMARU-KUN!
SHHHHHHH! SHHHHH! SHHHHH-HHHHHH!
CRUMPLE
NO! I WILL NOT BE SHH-HHHH'D!!
OKAY...
THERE'S NOTHING WE'VE DONE AS A COUPLE THAT SHOULD UPSET ANYONE!
WE'RE EVEN KEEPING ON TOP OF OUR SCHOOL-WORK!
YEAH...

Spin
Spin
Spin
THEN WHY ON EARTH IS MAMA SO PREOCCUPIED WITH KEEPING US APART!? I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
BUT...
BUT WHAT? ARE YOU DISAGREEING WITH ME!? DON'T YOU WANT TO BE SPENDING YOUR TIME WITH ME!?
ばむ!
BONK
NIKUMARU, YOU'RE A LOSER!!
HMM-MPH!
BUT, LISTEN...
I JUST CAN'T STAND IT KNOWING THAT YOU'RE FIGHTING WITH YOUR MOTHER OVER ME, MAKO-CHAN...
COLD AS ICE
REALLY?
WH-WHATEVER ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M NOT FIGHTING WITH ANYBODY!!

S-SENPAAA-AAAAAAA-AIIIIIIIIIIIII!!
OF COURSE! MAMA WAS SO BRIGHT AND CHIPPER THIS MORNING THAT I'M PRETTY SURE SHE TOTALLY FORGOT ALL THE NONSENSE THAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY!
WUZZAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?
I GUESS, LIKE THEY'RE PLANNING TO STIR UP THE MEMBERS OF EACH CLASS?
THEY'RE EVEN FORMING A SPECIAL HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS!?
SENPAI, WE GOT A CRISIS ON OUR HANDS!!
BOING
BOING
BOING
WAIT, WHAT DOES IT MEAN BY HEAVY-WEIGHT CLASS ANYWAYS?
BEATS ME~
APPARENTLY THIS WAS THE FIRST THING THE BOARD CHAIRWOMAN DECIDED ON THIS SHIFT AS SOON AS SHE GOT BACK FROM HER OVERSEAS BUSINESS TRIP!
WHY WOULD THEY BOTHER CHANGING THE CLASSES AROUND ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
HEAVY-WEIGHT CLASS...
SPECIAL...


KIRIGA-SAN...
WHILE WE'RE ATTENDING SCHOOL, PLEASE TAKE UTMOST CARE TO REFER TO ME AS CHAIRWOMAN BEHAVIOR IN A PLACE OF EDUCATION SHOULD BE SEPERATE FROM THAT OF YOUR PRIVATE LIFE
ガチャ!
CHAK!
MAMA-AAAA!!
I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT... BUT THE ODDS ARE FAIRLY HIGH YOU DECIDED TO PUT THIS INTO EFFECT SIMPLY TO SPLIT UP NIKUMARU-KUN AND I, DIDN'T YOU?
BWHAM
WHO CARES ABOUT THIS BOARD CHAIR-WOMAN JIBBER-JABBER? SPILL THE BEANS, WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE WEIGHT-DIVIDED CLASSES!?
CHAIR-WOMAN!
M-MAMA...
PRECISELY.

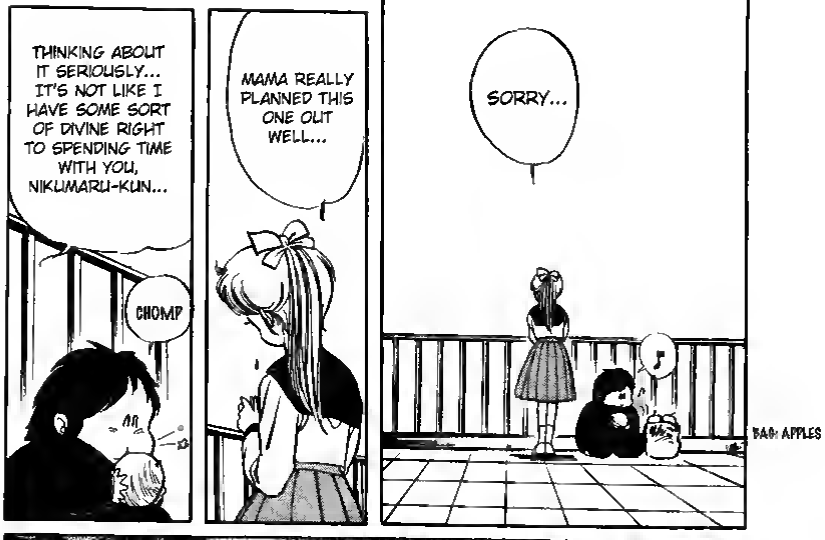
RESTORING THE BALANCE BETWEEN CLASSES FORMERLY TILTED IN THE FAVOR OF THOSE WITH STUDENTS OF ABSURD WEIGHT.
THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO THRIVE IN A MORE CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT
ALTHOUGH, THERE IS AN 'OFFICIAL' REASON.
GO TO HELL, MAMAAAA!!
I HATE YOU! I CAN'T EVEN LOOK AT YOUR FACE ANYMORE!!
OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, THE SARUTOBI SERPENT HAS AN INCREDIBLY LOW CHANCE OF REMAINING WITHIN YOUR CLASS...
THE MEASUREMENTS SHALL TAKE PLACE IN THREE DAYS! JUDGING FROM THE RESULTS, THE MEMBERS OF THE WEIGHT CLASSES WILL BE DECIDED
DUM-BASS!
SLAM!
...
TROUBLESOME INDEED, MA'AM.
WHAT A HASSLE. .


ULP!
GLARE
MAKO!
SO SHE FOUND OUT.
PAPA! HOW COULD YOU ALLOW SOMETHING SO RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE JUST AS INTOLERANT AS MAMA!
YOU COWARD!
ULTIMATELY, I FULLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOUR MOTHER IS AFTER
CHANGING THE CLASSES AROUND ISN'T REALLY A BAD THING.
CHANCES ARE YOU AND NIKUMARU-KUN WON'T BE SEEING EACH OTHER VERY OFTEN ANYMORE.
ENOUGH! CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING RIGHT!?
SORRY, HONEY... YOU KNOW MAMA'S THE BOARD CHAIRWOMAN, I CAN'T JUST SAY NO TO HER.
EVEN IF SHIFTING CLASSES WORKS, THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. SOON, SHE'LL COME UP WITH AN EVEN WORSE METHOD OF SEPERATING THE TWO OF US!
YOU KNOW MAMA'S THAT KIND OF PERSON BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE!
HAVEN'T YOU SUPPORTED OUR RELATIONSHIP FROM THE VERY BEGINNING!? WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE TO TAKE IS THAT, THEN!?

I'M...
GOING HOME.
WHATEVER! THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ANYWAYS NIKUMARU-KUN AND I WILL BE DIVIDED INTO DIFFERENT CLASSES AFTER ALL...
THINK IT OVER FOR A BIT, YOU'LL EVENTUALLY UNDERSTAND HER FEELINGS.
DON'T SPEAK ABOUT YOUR MOTHER THAT WAY, MAKO...
I said I was going home.
But, honestly, I don't think I can take living in the same house with that demoness of a mother.

The next day.
SPRINT
BOOOOM
SLIDE
OH! MAKO-CHAN, JUST IN TIME FOR LUNCH!

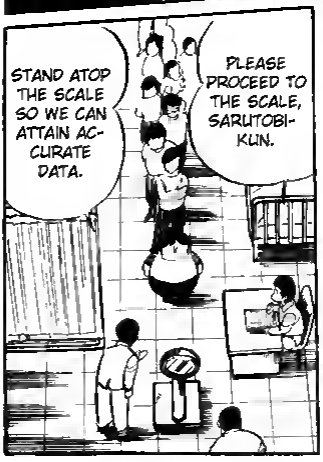
SHOVELING THESE DOWN MY THROAT IS MY ONLY CHANCE TO MAKE IT INTO THE HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS WITH YOU, NIKUMARU-KUN!
THAT'S MY DREAM-EXTREME TURBO-CALORIE WEIGHT-GAIN SUPREME LUNCH BOX!
SNATCH
H-HOLD YOUR HORSES! THAT STUFF IS UMMM, OFF LIMITS!
Slurrrrrp
LISTEN TO WHAT I'M SAYING, NIKU-MARUUUUUUUU!!
AH!
GOBBLE
...
Slurp slurp
Crunch crunch
Munch munch

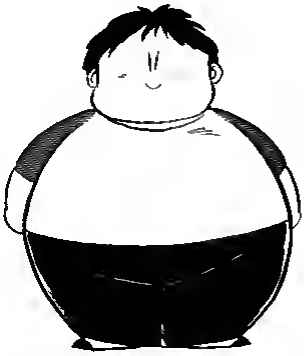

SORRY...
MAMA REALLY PLANNED THIS ONE OUT WELL...
THINKING ABOUT IT SERIOUSLY... IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE SOME SORT OF DIVINE RIGHT TO SPENDING TIME WITH YOU, NIKUMARU-KUN...
CHOMP
BAD APPLES
BUT I WON'T GIVE UP.
THIS IS A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN MOTHER AND DAUGHTER!
SCALE 'EM UP!

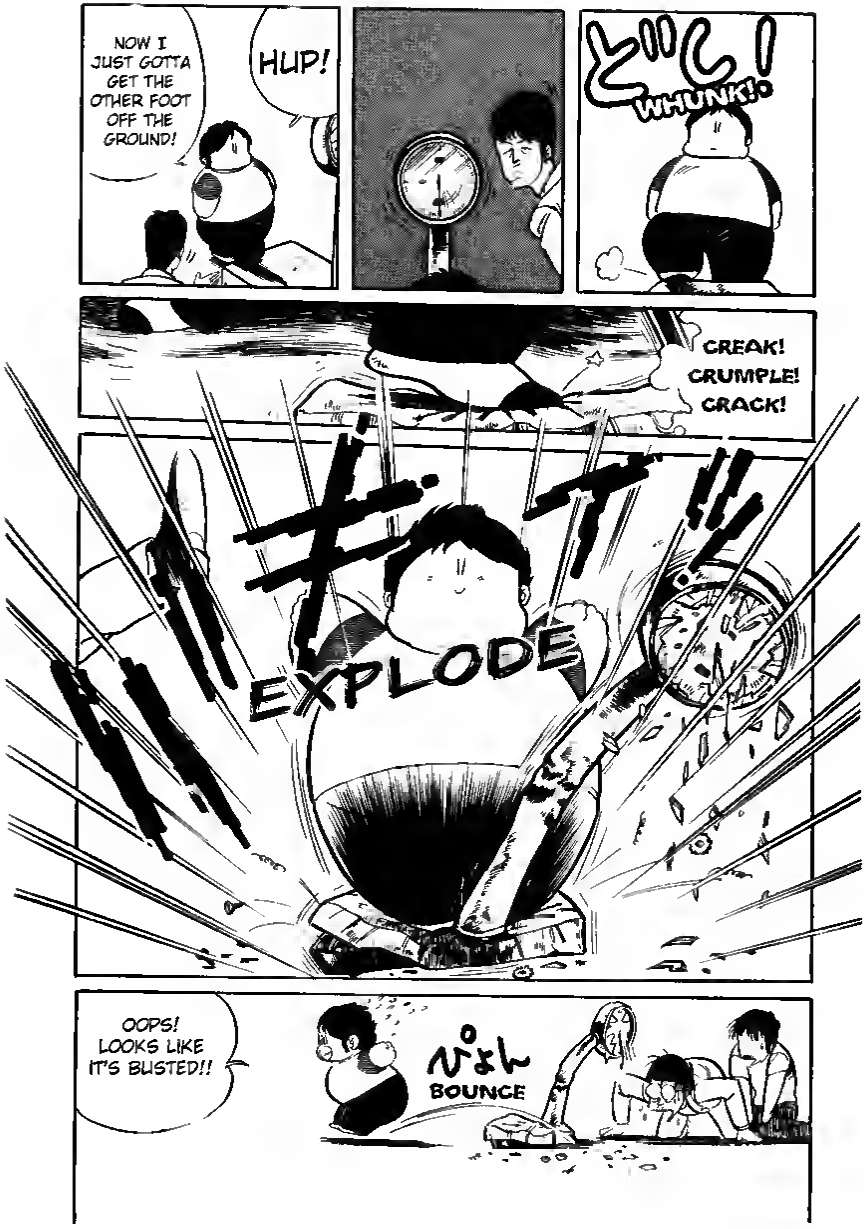
THIS PROCEDURE WILL FURTHER CATEGORIZE YOU INTO VARIOUS WEIGHT CLASSES.
CURRENTLY YOU ARE ORGANIZED BY FULL NAME, HOMEROOM CLASS, AND SEAT ORDER.
I SHALL NOW GO OVER THE IMPORTANT DETAILS PERTAINING TO THE CLASS REORGANIZATION AND WEIGHT CLASSES...
HMPH!
HEY, ISN'T THE CHAIRWOMAN... MAKO'S MOM OR SOMETHING?
WHAT A COOL AND BEAUTIFUL LADY
PLEASE COOPERATE!
ZSHOOP
AHH!!

SHRED
SUCH TRICKERY SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!
CHAINMAIL ARMOR, SUCH AS THE TYPE WORN HERE DOES NOT COUNT TOWARDS A STUDENT'S TOTAL WEIGHT.

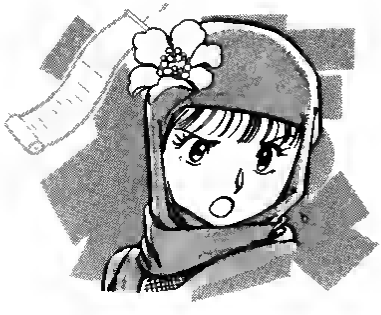
SORRY, NIKUMARU-KUN! I FAILED!!


STAND ATOP THE SCALE SO WE CAN ATTAIN ACCURATE DATA.
PLEASE PROCEED TO THE SCALE, SARUTOBI-KUN.




NOW I JUST GOTTA GET THE OTHER FOOT OFF THE GROUND!
HUP!
どしん!
WHUNK!
CREAK!
CRUMPLE!
CRACK!
ギィ!!
EXPLODE
OOPS! LOOKS LIKE IT'S BUSTED!!
ぴょん
BOUNCE

JEEZ! YOU'D THINK THE ACADEMY COULD AFFORD STRONGER WEIGHSCALES!!
UH-OH! BETTER CALL A REPAIR-MAN, ANOTHER ONE DOWN!!
CLANG
BWHOOM
KRUNG
CHUNGH
MY BAD! BROKE AN-OTHER ONE!!
SMUSH
TELL ME RIGHT NOW, WHAT'S HOLDING UP THE BOYS' MEASUREMENTS!?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS!?
MUCH TO THE BOARD CHAIRWOMAN'S FRUSTRATION, NIKUMARU'S WEIGHT SIMPLY PUT HIM IN A CLASS BEYOND MEASURE!
UUUUUUR-RRRNNNNN NGGGG-GHHHHH!
THE SARUTOBI MONGREL IS BEHIND THIS!?



The Dreadful Nikumaru Assassination

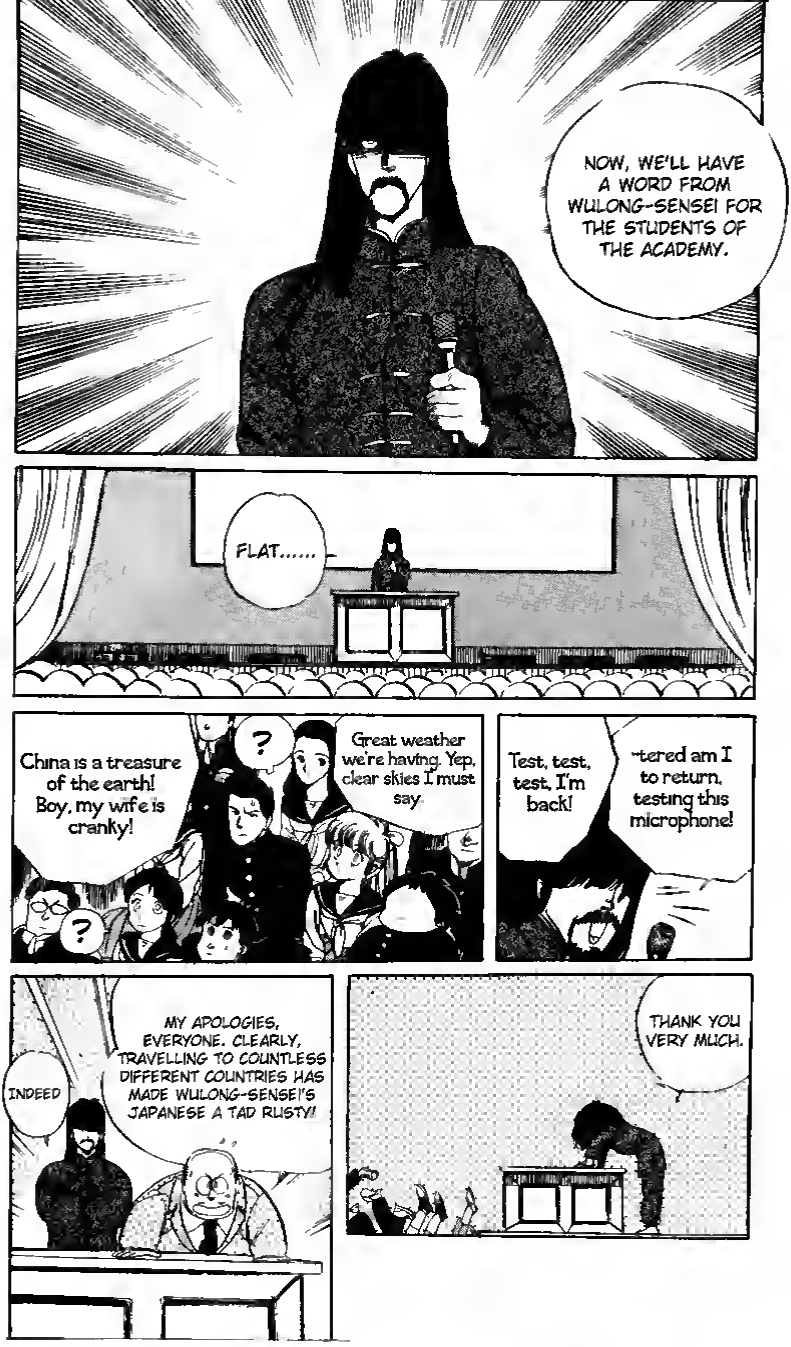
TWITCH
CHOMP
CRUNCH
OMNOM
NUMCH
SCHLUP
CHEW
UMPH
HOWEVER, THIS WOULD NOT BE THE END AT LONG LAST, THINGS FINALLY...
GULP.
SCRUMPH.

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!!
FALCON PUNCH
-HHHH

VWIP
WHACHOW
NOT A CHANCE, SMARTASS!
NO, MY DUMP-LIIIINGS!
AIRCHOMP!

MUNCH!
CHEW
TURN
WIPE
SLOW DOWN, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING!? WAIT, ISN'T THAT...!
THAT GUY ATE MY DUMPLINGS! AS IF THEY WERE HIS OWN SNACK! WHO EATS ANOTHER MAN'S DUMPLINGS, HONESTLY!?

CHAN WULONG!?
NIHAO!
FURTHERMORE, TO ADVANCE HIS ABILITIES AS A TEACHER, WULONG-SENSEI ALSO RETURNED TO HIS HOMELAND OF CONTINENTAL CHINA, EMBELLISHING HIMSELF IN SEVERAL ADVANCED MARTIAL ARTS!
FOR THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS WULONG-SENSEI HAS ACCOMPANIED CHAIRWOMAN KIRIGA ON HER OVERSEAS BUSINESS VISITING MULTIPLE VARIOUS SECRET SERVICES AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES AS HER PERSONAL ATTENDANT!
SH!
BUT HE ATE MY DUMPLINGS!
AS OF TODAY, CHAN WULONG-SENSEI SHALL OFFICIALLY BE RESUMING HIS POSITION AS A TEACHER AT THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS.


NOW, WE'LL HAVE A WORD FROM WULONG-SENSEI FOR THE STUDENTS OF THE ACADEMY.
FLAT.....
China is a treasure of the earth! Boy, my wife is cranky!
?
Great weather we're having. Yep, clear skies I must say.
?
Test, test, test, I'm back!
-tered am I to return, testing this microphone!
MY APOLOGIES, EVERYONE. CLEARLY, TRAVELLING TO COUNTLESS DIFFERENT COUNTRIES HAS MADE WULONG-SENSEI'S JAPANESE A TAD RUSTY!
INDEED
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

DEAD SILENCE
APPARENTLY, HE'D LIKE THE CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE HIS MARTIAL ARTS TO THE ENTIRE SCHOOL. ANYONE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER AS HIS PARTNER, PLEASE STEP FORWARD!
CHALLENGE!
SWOP
VERY WELL! I ACCEPT YOU AS MY CHALLENGER, TUBBY ONE!
CALM DOWN, NIKUMARU-KUN.
HE ATE MY DUMPLIIIINGS.
HMMM...

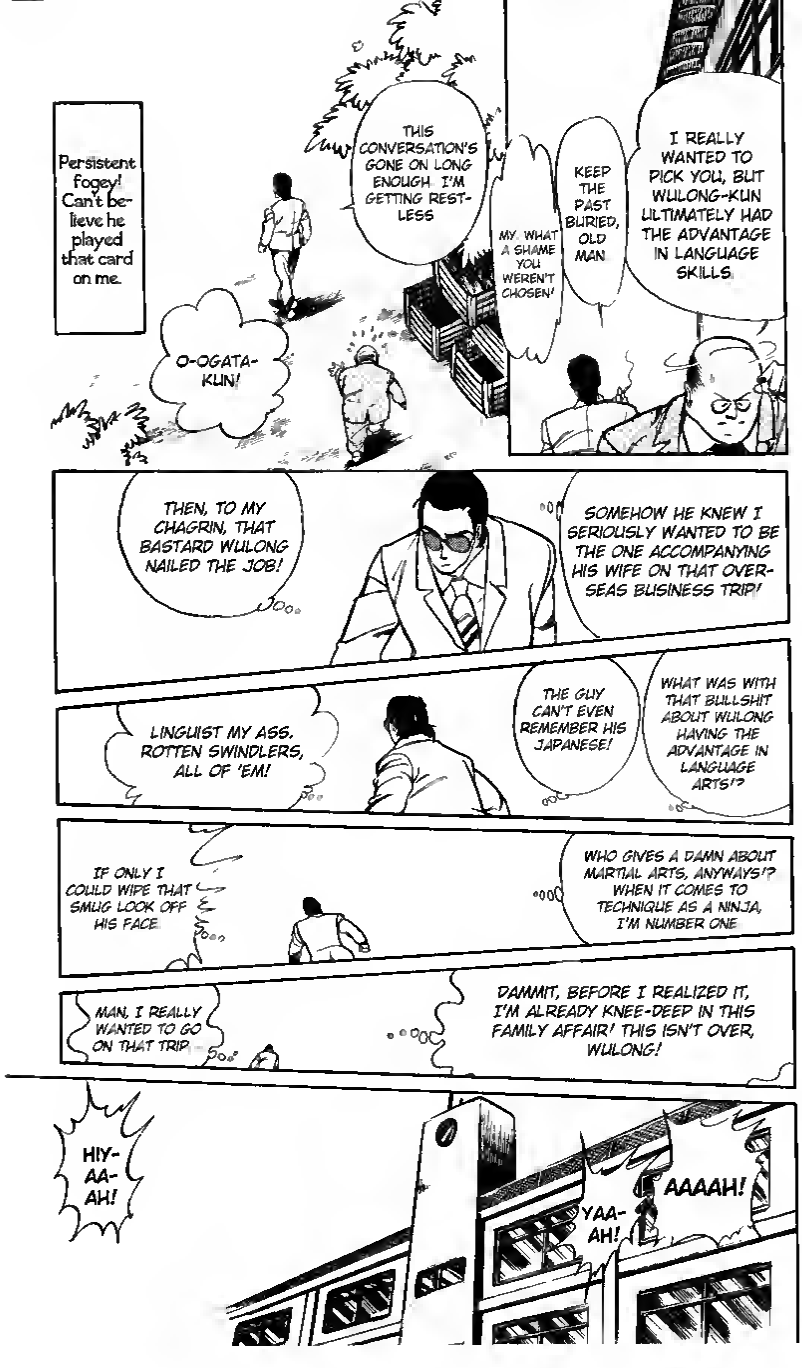
DARTING
COME AT ME!!
NNGH
MMGH
HMMH
URGH
MRMPH
YOU ATE MY FREAKING DUMPLINGS!!
SWOSH
SWOSH
AAACHOU!!

PAP
PING
ATE!
ATA!
ACHA!
TING!
PYAHC
SOMETHING VERY DIFFICULT TO PULL OFF AGAINST AN OPPONENT LIKE A NINJA...
INCREDIBLE, HE'S UTILIZING SURFACE OF REVOLUTION THEORY TO DEFLECT ALL OF THE INCOMING SHURIKEN WHILE SPINNING IN PLACE TO KEEP A CONSTANTLY REFRESHING FIELD OF VISION!
THOK
ACHAAA!
DASH

SLOW...
Vwaaaaaaaa
FIRST HE WAS JUST KNOCKING DOWN SARU-TOBI'S SHURIKEN BUT THAT ONE CLEARLY WAS DIRECTED AS A COUNTER-ATTACK!
R-RETURN FIRE!
HAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!!
DWHOOOM!
THAT'S ENOUGH!!
AKO!
AS YOU WISH, CHAIR-WOMAN!
UNLEASHING YOUR FULL STRENGTH AGAINST A STUDENT IS UN-ACCEPTABLE.
AFTER ALL...

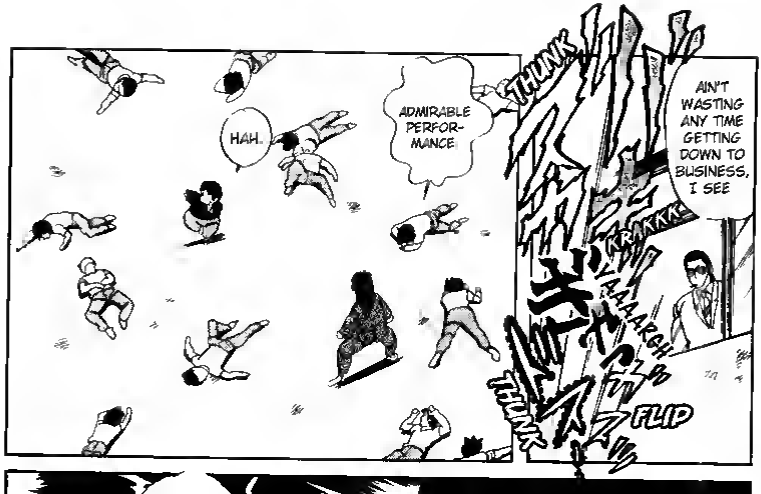
TCH, RIGHT WHEN IT WAS HEATING UP...
I BELIEVE YOU GOT THE MESSAGE ACROSS JUST FINE.
WE NEED TO SPEAK IN PRIVATE!
AFTER THE ASSEMBLY, COME TO MY OFFICE IMMEDIATELY!
AN ASSASSIN?
SEEMS LIKE MAMA'S SET UP ANOTHER ONE OF HER UNPLEASANT SCHEMES
GIVE UP, YOU AREN'T GETTING THEM BACK!
BUT, MY DUMPLIIINGS.
IT'S THE COLD, HARD TRUTH...
ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN, PRINCIPAL?

LIKELY HER IMMEDIATE GOAL IS TO UTILIZE WULONG-KUN'S FEARSOME MARTIAL ARTS TO SCARE OFF NIKUMARU-KUN FROM ATTENDING THE ACADEMY.
YOU DON'T SAY.
HMM... QUITE A STICKY SITUATION WE'RE WRAPPED UP IN.
THE CHAIRWO... I MEAN, MY WIFE HAS SOME SORT OF VENDETTA AGAINST NIKUMARU-KUN AND MAKO'S RELATIONSHIP SHE'LL GO TO ANY LENGTH TO SEPERATE THEM EVEN SENDING NIKUMARU TO THE GRAVE...
PWUT
THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, OGATA-KUN...
WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS... SHOULDN'T SHE KEEP HER PRIVATE PROBLEMS AT HOME INSTEAD OF DRAGGING THEM INTO THE DAMN SCHOOL?
I WOULD FEEL MORE CONFIDENT WITH YOU UNDERTAKING THE TASK.
CHRIST, YOU REALLY ARE WHIPPED, PRINCIPAL.
SORRY, NOT MY PROBLEM.
AS THE PRINCIPLE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TROUBLE KEEPING TABS ON ONE TEACHER.
M-ME!? SARUTOBI'S BODYGUARD?
WELL, I WOULDN'T CALL IT BODY-GUARD DUTY. I SIMPLY NEED YOU TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON WULONG-KUN'S ACTIVITIES. CAN YOU HANDLE THAT?
SEEMS THAT TWO YEARS AGO I MADE THE CORRECT SELECTION FOR MY WIFE'S OVERSEAS BUSINESS ATTENDANT.
OGATA-KUN...

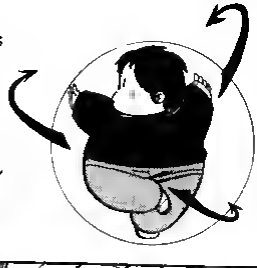

I REALLY WANTED TO PICK YOU, BUT WULONG-KUN ULTIMATELY HAD THE ADVANTAGE IN LANGUAGE SKILLS.
KEEP THE PAST BURIED, OLD MAN.
MY, WHAT A SHAME YOU WEREN'T CHOSEN!
THIS CONVERSATION'S GONE ON LONG ENOUGH. I'M GETTING RESTLESS.
O-OGATA-KUN!
Persistent fogey! Can't believe he played that card on me.
SOMEHOW HE KNEW I SERIOUSLY WANTED TO BE THE ONE ACCOMPANYING HIS WIFE ON THAT OVERSEAS BUSINESS TRIP!
THEN, TO MY CHAGRIN, THAT BASTARD WULONG NAILED THE JOB!
WHAT WAS WITH THAT BULLSHIT ABOUT WULONG HAVING THE ADVANTAGE IN LANGUAGE ARTS!?
THE GUY CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER HIS JAPANESE!
LINGUIST MY ASS. ROTTEN SWINDLERS, ALL OF 'EM!
WHO GIVES A DAMN ABOUT MARTIAL ARTS, ANYWAYS!? WHEN IT COMES TO TECHNIQUE AS A NINJA, I'M NUMBER ONE.
IF ONLY I COULD WIPE THAT SMUG LOOK OFF HIS FACE.
DAMMIT, BEFORE I REALIZED IT, I'M ALREADY KNEE-DEEP IN THIS FAMILY AFFAIR! THIS ISN'T OVER, WULONG!
MAN, I REALLY WANTED TO GO ON THAT TRIP.
AAAAH!
YAA-AH!
HIY-AA-AH!

RAAAH!
URYAH!
HAI.
HAH.
HOH.
ULTIMATELY, I WANT HIM REMOVED FROM THIS ACADEMY PERMANENTLY.
DISPOSE OF HIM WITH WHICHEVER METHOD YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE.
HERE, YOUR TARGET IS THIS CHILD. NIKUMARU SARUTOBI!
SLAM
RAH.
HYAH!
YAAH!
YATATSU!!
UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF YOUR MISSION, THIS SCHOOL WILL CONSTRUCT AN ON-SITE MARTIAL ARTS DOJO AS PER YOUR REQUEST.

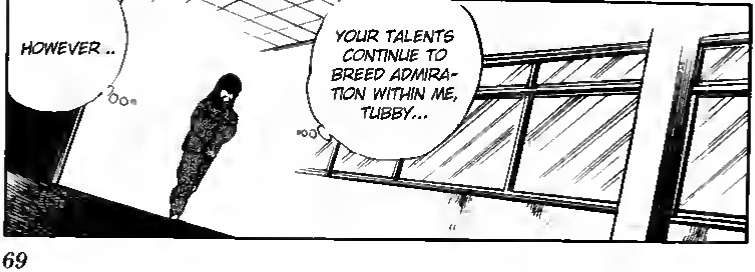
ZWOOOK
SHOKKYH
EVERYONE, CONTINUE PRACTICE!!
CRUMPLE
AAAGH. HE DID IT AGAIN!
DEATHSTRIKE
PRACTICE I SAID!!
RIGHT.
Y-YES SIR.
SPLUT
SMAS
WHUMP



ORTHODOX MARTIAL ARTISTS LIKE WILONG WILL HAVE AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TIME ADAPTING TO LANDING A HIT ON SOMETHING THAT NATURALLY AVERTS EVERY ATTACK



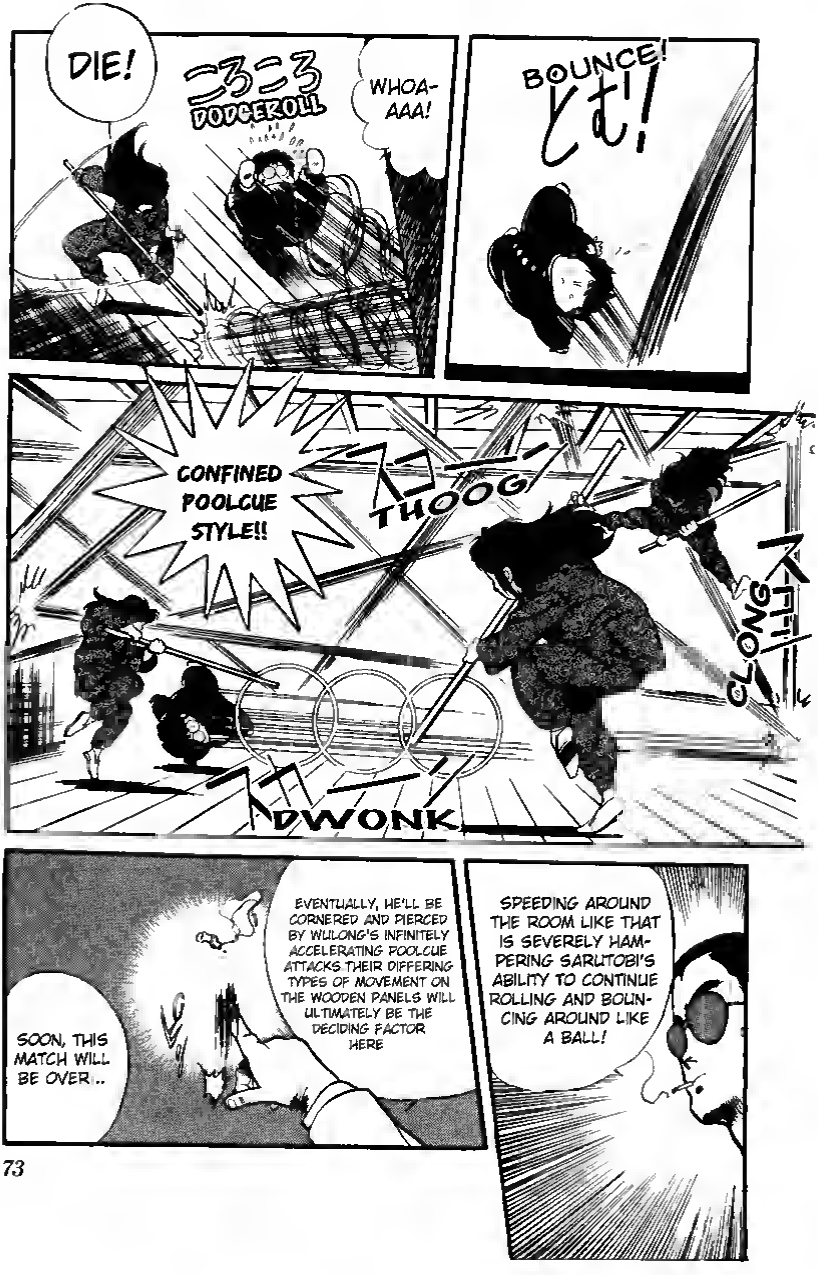
SARUTOBI'S GOT THE NATURAL ADVANTAGE HERE. WITH A BODY SHAPED LIKE A BALLOON, THE MOTIONS AND ATTACKS OF MARTIAL ARTS NATURALLY SLIP RIGHT AROUND HIS MEAT!



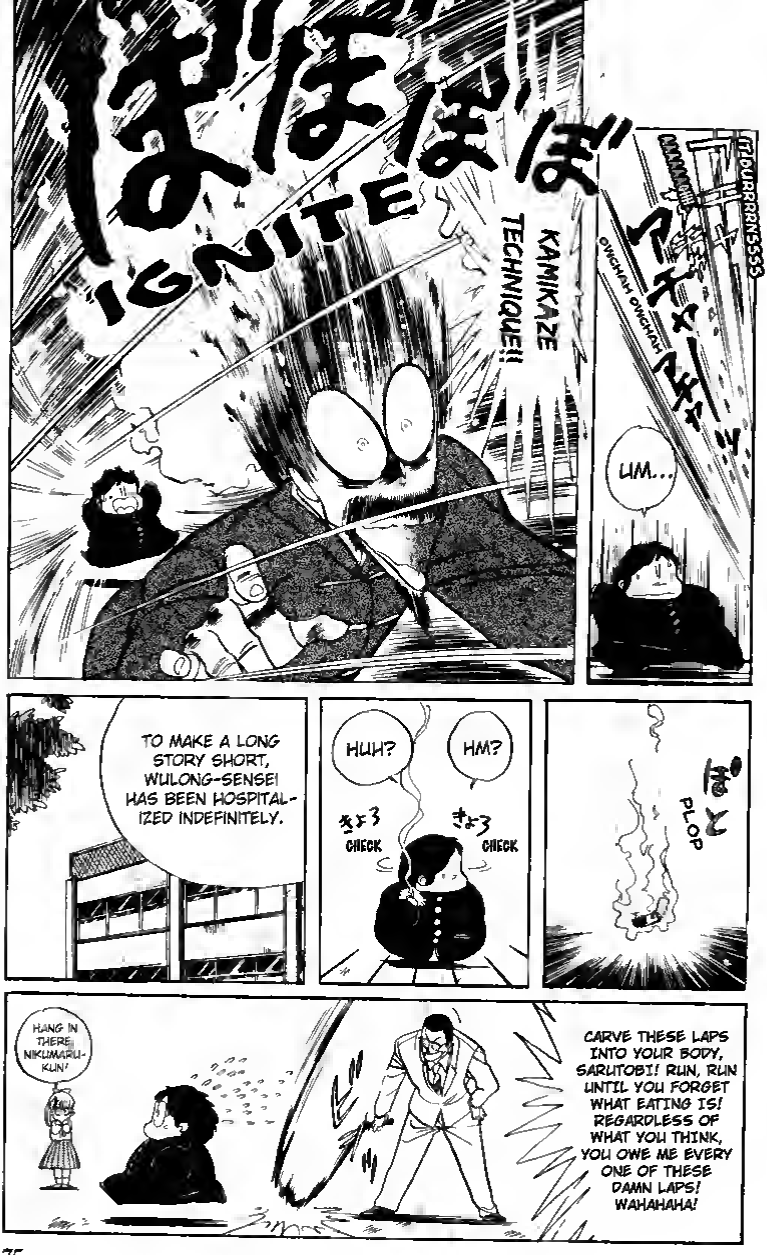
HM?
SHINOBI SPECIAL CHANT
MY EXISTENCE HAS A HOLE IN IT
TOO BAD, MAKO-CHAN, THERE'S NO WAY TO DROP SOMETHING ON THE CEILING!
IF I DO THIS, THE GROUND TURNS INTO THE CEILING!
BOING
VWIP
EATING STUFF DROPPED ON THE GROUND IS NOT ONLY DISGUSTING, YOU MIGHT GET SICK!
WAIT A SECOND!
Sign. Shinobi Dojo
しのび道場
OOOH, SOMEBODY'S CARELESS WITH THEIR DONUTS ♡

A SINCERE WELCOME TO YOU, O TUBBY ONE.
ビリッ
TWITCH
I KNOW THAT VOICE.
くるっ
SPIN
TUBBY...
I SHALL ASK YOU ONLY ONCE OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE SAKE OF ACCOMPLISHING MY DREAM, LEAVE THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS IMMEDIATELY!
HMMM, NONE OF THIS IS REALLY MAKING MUCH SENSE TO ME
YOU REFUSE!?
BETTER KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT
...
IT IS RE-GRETTABLE...
THAT I AM TASKED WITH REMOVING ONE WHO MAY HAVE OTHERWISE BECOME A WORLD-RECOGNIZED MARTIAL ARTIST

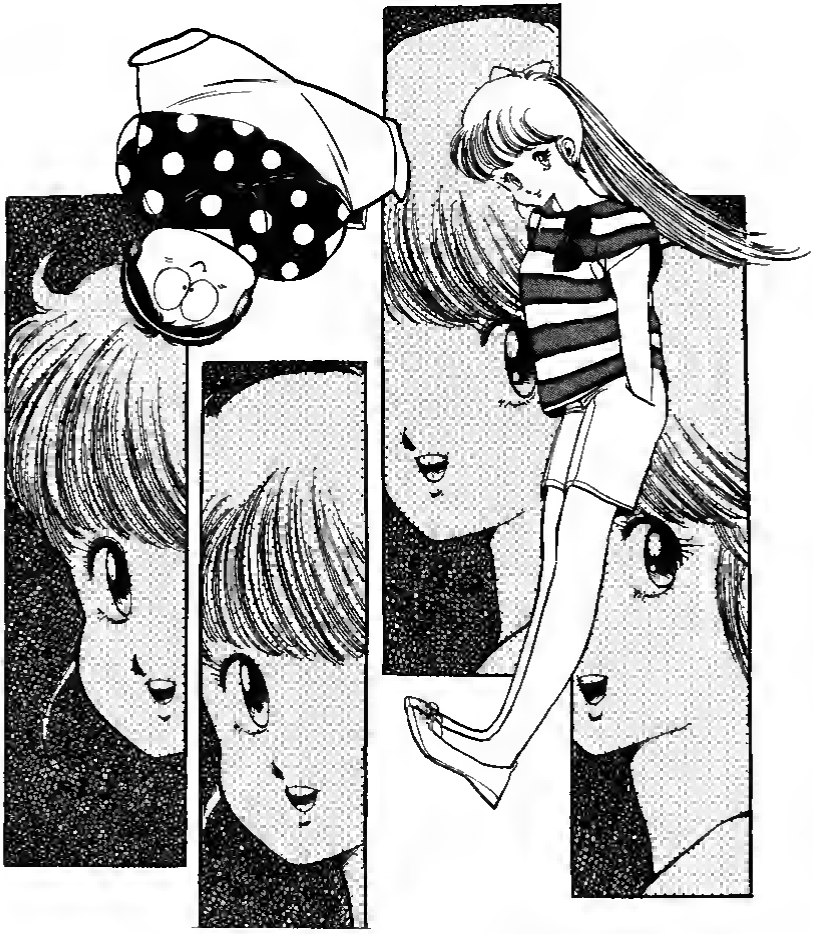
LEAVE THE ACADEMY!!!!!!!!!!!!
WOOSH!
SWING
WAH!
TCHOK


DIE!
ころころ
POOLEROLL
WHOA-AAA!
BOUNCE!
とと!
CONFINED POOLCUE STYLE!!
THOOG
CLONG
DWONK
SOON, THIS MATCH WILL BE OVER..
EVENTUALLY, HE'LL BE CORNERED AND PIERCED BY WULONG'S INFINITELY ACCELERATING POOLCUE ATTACKS THEIR DIFFERING TYPES OF MOVEMENT ON THE WOODEN PANELS WILL ULTIMATELY BE THE DECIDING FACTOR HERE
SPEEDING AROUND THE ROOM LIKE THAT IS SEVERELY HAMPERING SARUTOBI'S ABILITY TO CONTINUE ROLLING AND BOUNCING AROUND LIKE A BALL!

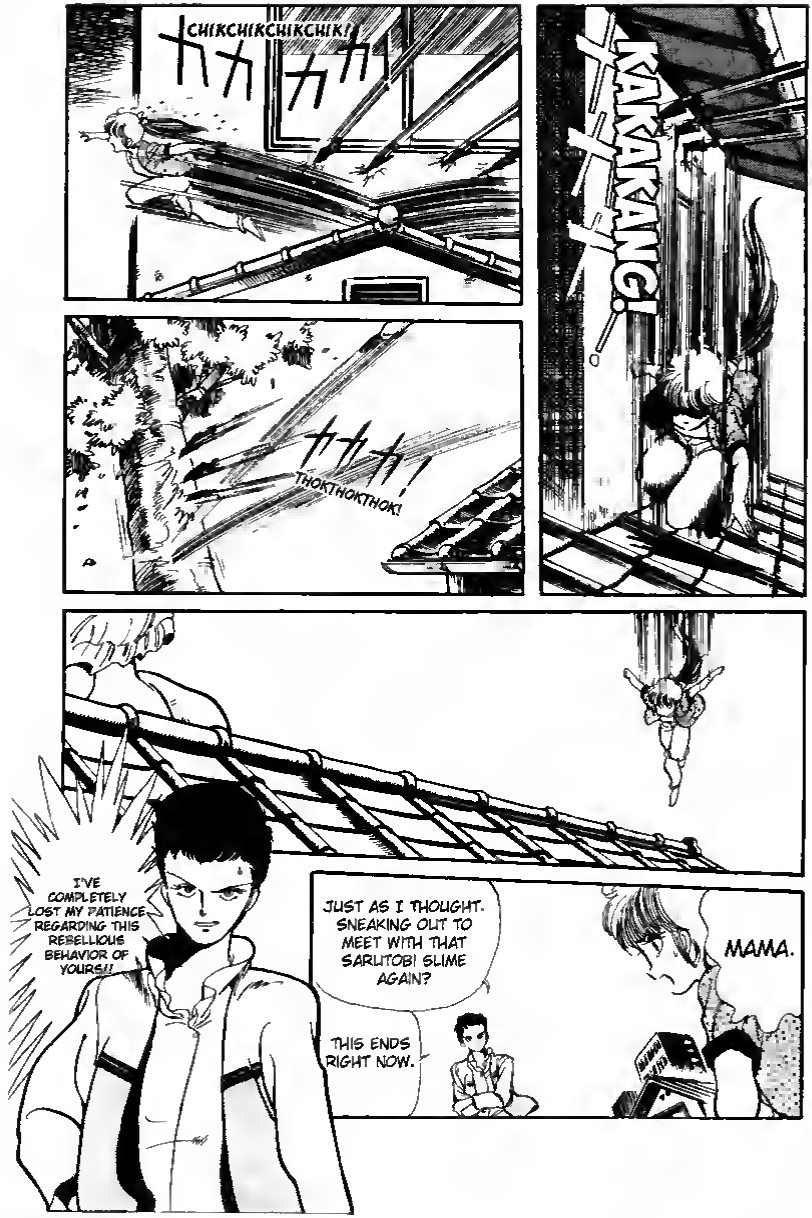
UNFORTU-
NATELY,
WULONG...
YOU'RE
ABOUT TO FACE
DEFEAT HEAD-
ON.
OHHH, WHY IS
THE ROOM STILL
SPINNING~
ACHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!
HEHEHEH...
ENJOY YOUR
LAST MOMENTS
ALIVE PREPARING
FOR DEATH,
TUBBY.
?
?
HOT HOT
HOT HOT!
I'M COO-
KING!!

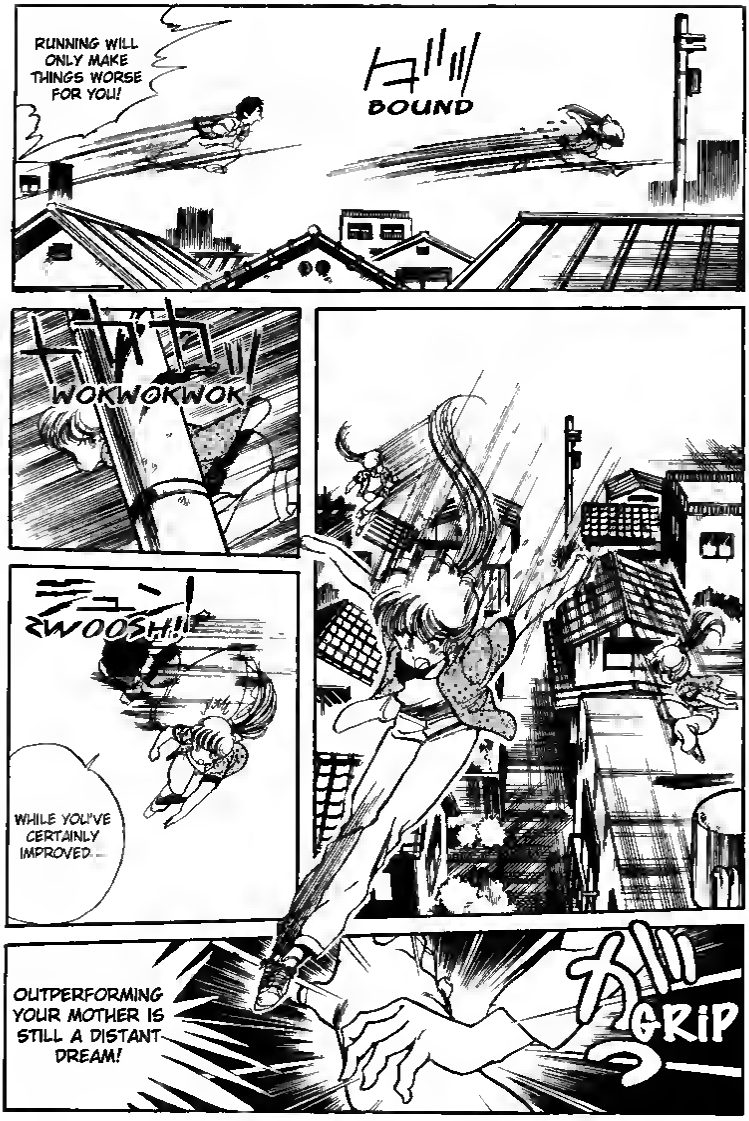

IGNITE
KAMIKAZE TECHNIQUE!!
GRRRRRR
OURRRRNSSSS
OWCHAN! OWCHAN!
UM...
TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, WULONG-SENSEI HAS BEEN HOSPITALIZED INDEFINITELY.
HUH?
HM?
CHECK
CHECK
PLOP
HANG IN THERE NIKUMARU-KUN!
CARVE THESE LAPS INTO YOUR BODY, SARUTOBI! RUN, RUN UNTIL YOU FORGET WHAT EATING IS! REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU THINK, YOU OWE ME EVERY ONE OF THESE DAMN LAPS! WAHAHAHA!

Insane Birthday Rhapsody



ZZZZZZ.
CHIRP...
TWEET...
チ…
チ…
SHHH.
MAKO!

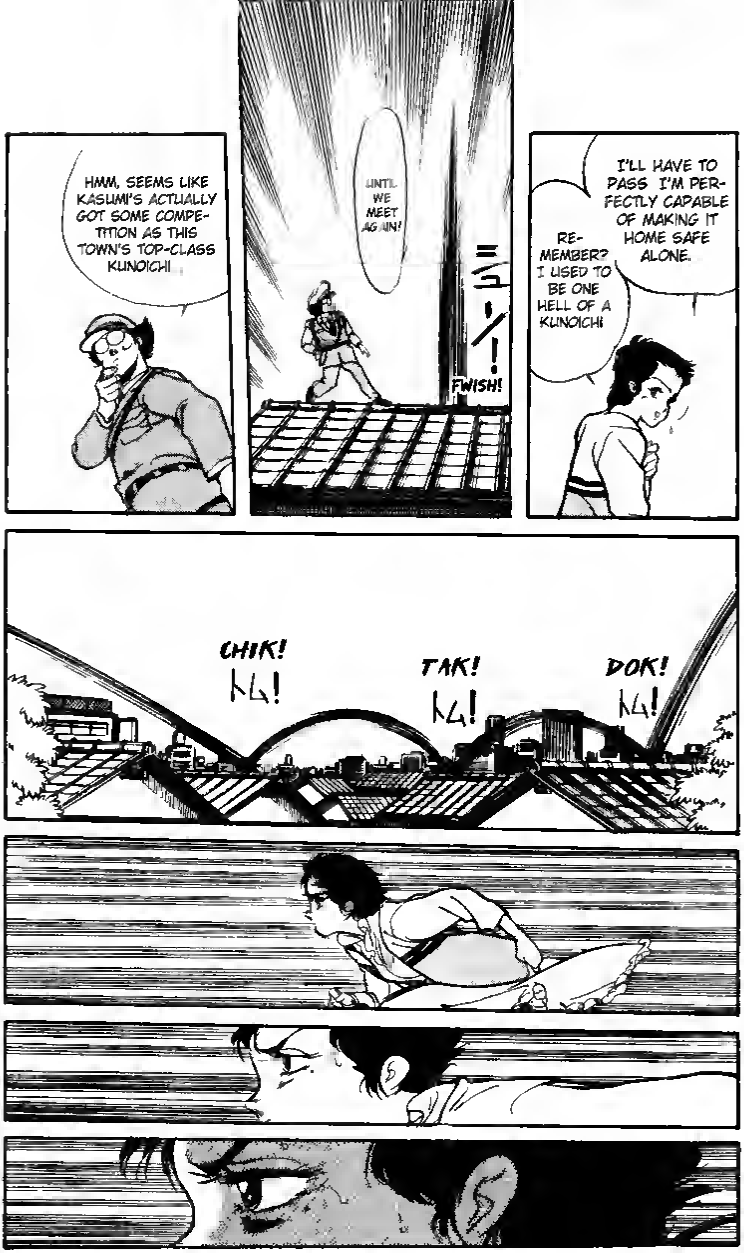

CHIKCHIKCHIKCHIK!
KAKAKANG!
THOKTHOKTHOK!
MAMA.
JUST AS I THOUGHT. SNEAKING OUT TO MEET WITH THAT SARUTOBI SLIME AGAIN?
THIS ENDS RIGHT NOW.
I'VE COMPLETELY LOST MY PATIENCE REGARDING THIS REBELLIOUS BEHAVIOR OF YOURS!!

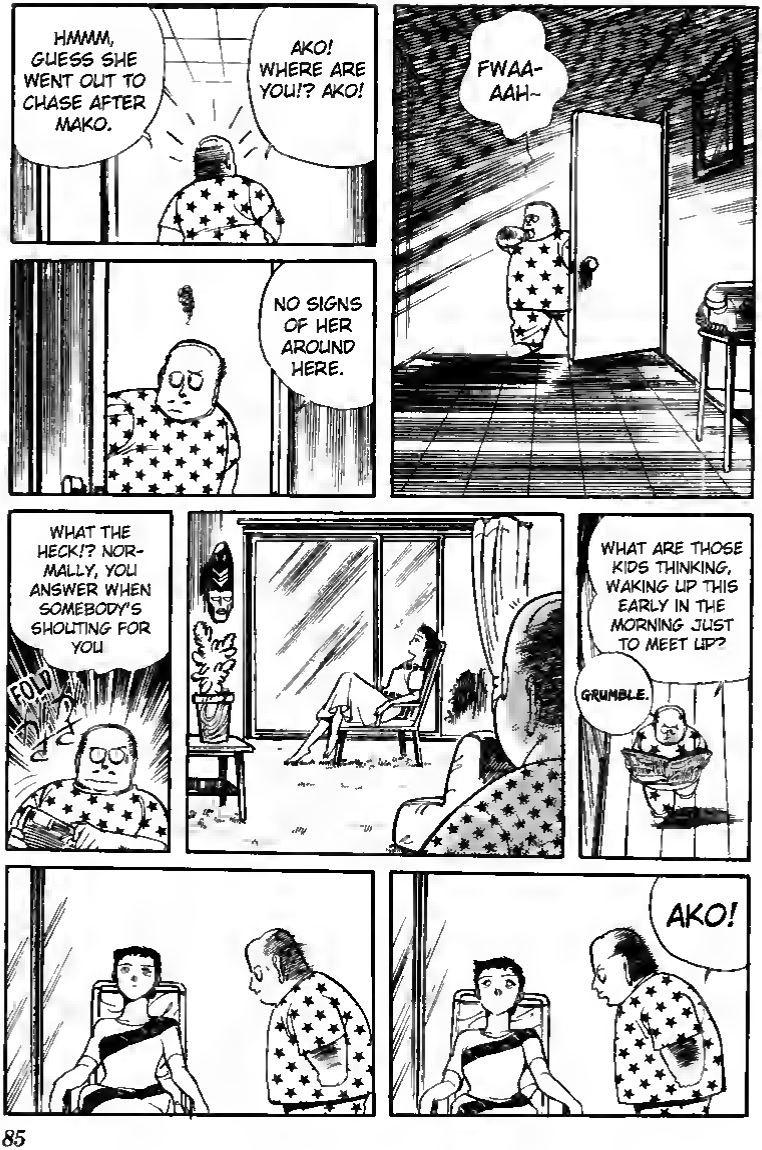

RUNNING WILL ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE FOR YOU!
BOUND
WOKWOKWOK
SWOOSH!!
WHILE YOU'VE CERTAINLY IMPROVED...
OUTPERFORMING YOUR MOTHER IS STILL A DISTANT DREAM!
GRIP

TOP O' THE MORNIN' TO YA♡
TUG
TWIRL
DISGUSTING WOOOOOORM!
SPIN
AAAAAH!
KLAKKLAK
EEEEEK!
GET. BACK. HERE. NOW. PIG.
ROINROINROING
HUP.
HOH.
HUP.

HM?
EHE♡
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
EXCUSE ME, MA'AM. COULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'RE DOING ON THE ROOF ALONE THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?
UNBELIEVABLE THAT SLIPPERY SARUTOBI SERPENT...
PISS OFF.
WELL, I CAN'T EXACTLY DO THAT, NOW CAN I? STANDING ON THE ROOF ISN'T VERY SAFE! ALSO, YOU APPEAR TO BE EXTREMELY UPSET. YOU COULD FALL OFF AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT...
QUIT GETTING INVOLVED WITH THINGS YOU HAVE NO PLACE...
HUP
PLAY IT THAT WAY IF YOU WANT! WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT I'VE GOT DUTIES TO PERFORM!
FINE.
SWIFF

I-I REALIZE THAT I WAS ALSO ACTING DISRESPECT-FULLY...
P-PLEASE. ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES.
KOGEN... TA-SAN...
OH...
K-KIRIGA-SAN...
WELL, AS FOR ME, I'VE BEEN BOOTED OUT OF MY OWN HOUSE FOR THE TIME BEING.
YOU'VE BEEN TRAVELLING ABROAD UP UNTIL LAST MONTH? IS THAT RIGHT...?
ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I'D SAY MY FAMILY LIFE'S IN PERFECT HARMONY ♡
WE MANAGE TO SEE EACH OTHER EVERY ONCE IN AWHILE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
ARE YOU SEPERATED FROM YOUR WIFE?
HER OLD MAN'S THE ONLY REAL OBSTACLE, BUT BOY IS HE LIKE A STUBBORN OX
WEEEELL, THE OLD FART KEEPS GOING OFF ABOUT EXCOMMU-NICATION THIS, WORTHLESS TRASH THAT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
ANYWAYS, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO HAVING AN ESCORT GUIDE YOU BACK HOME!?
YOU DON'T SAY.

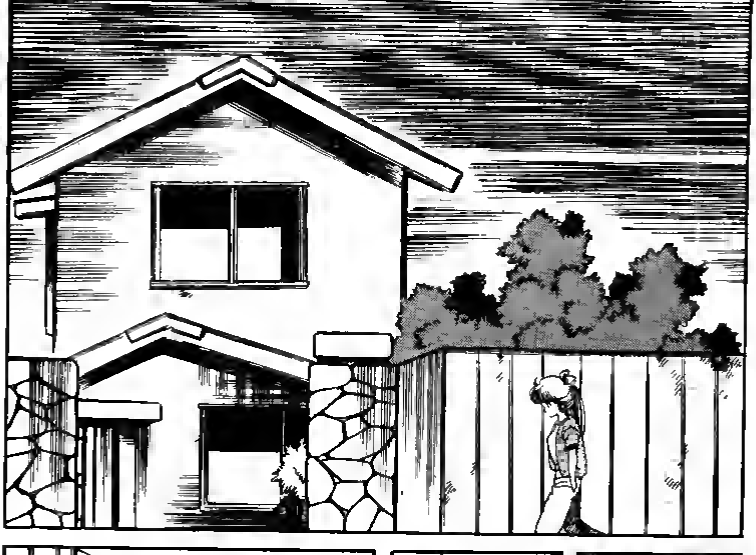

HMM, SEEMS LIKE KASUMI'S ACTUALLY GOT SOME COMPETITION AS THIS TOWN'S TOP-CLASS KUNOICHI
UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!
FWISH!
I'LL HAVE TO PASS I'M PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF MAKING IT HOME SAFE ALONE.
REMEMBER? I USED TO BE ONE HELL OF A KUNOICHI
CHIK!
TAK!
DOK!

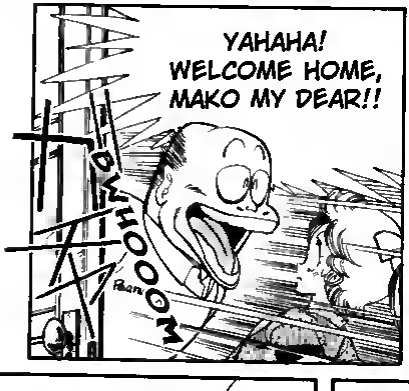

HMMM, GUESS SHE WENT OUT TO CHASE AFTER MAKO.
AKO! WHERE ARE YOU!? AKO!
FWAA-AAH~
NO SIGNS OF HER AROUND HERE.
WHAT THE HECK!? NORMALLY, YOU ANSWER WHEN SOMEBODY'S SHOUTING FOR YOU
FOLD
WHAT ARE THOSE KIDS THINKING, WAKING UP THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING JUST TO MEET UP?
GRUMBLE.
AKO!

JUST NOWW-WWW.
OH, WHEN DID YOU COME IN, DARLING?
SMACK
AKHE-RGH...
OUT OF ALL THE YOUNG MEN OUT IN THE WORLD, SHE HAD TO FALL FOR SOME BLOB-ULAR SLOB ..
IF ONLY SHE'D TAKE THE TIME TO CONSIDER HER PARENTS' WISHES!
APPARENTLY ON A DATE WITH THAT SICKENING SARUTOBI SLUG.
ANY CLUE... WHERE MAKO MIGHT BE?
NOTHING WORTH WORRYING OVER, DEAR...
HUH?
THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE ARE SNATCHED AWAY BY THAT INCORRI-GIBLE SARUTOBI FAMILY...
IRO-NY...

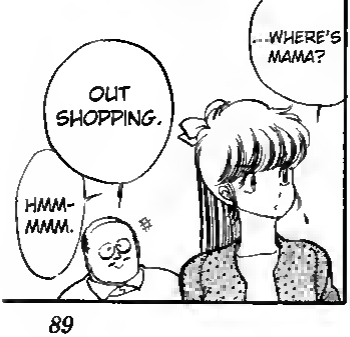
SAY, AKO, WHAT DAY IS IT?
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH.
WHAT ABOUT THE DAY AFTER THAT?
I'LL START PREPARING BREAKFAST.
OH...
SEE WHAT I MEAN?
AFTER THE TWENTY-SEVENTH COMES THE TWENTY-EIGHTH, OBVIOUSLY...
IS YOUR HEAD SCREWED ON RIGHT?
GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF! MAKO WOULD NEVER SAY THAT, YOU FOOL.
MAKO MUST REALLY HATE ME NOW FOR FORGETTING...
GREAT...
IF SHE HEARD YOU THINKING THAT WAY, ONLY THEN MIGHT SHE ACTUALLY HATE YOU.
THIS IS A THREE MEMBER FAMILY HERE.
DEAR...

BUT REALLY CHARMING, YA KNOW?♡
SEEING THIS SIDE OF YOU'S STRANGE..
SERIOUS
きりっ
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN, KASUMI!
ALRIGHT!
DUM-BASS!
KRONK
I CAN BE IGNORANT IF I WANT, YOU OLD APE!
ALRIGHT, SEE YOU TOMORROW!

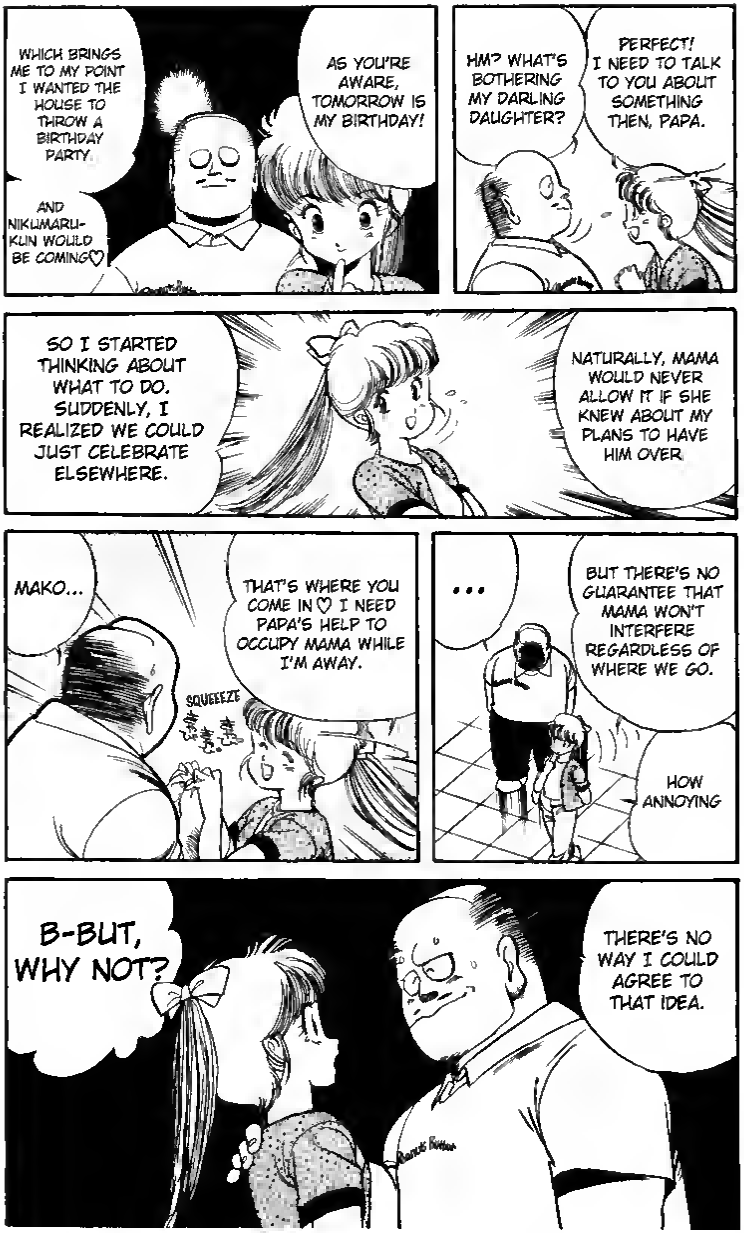


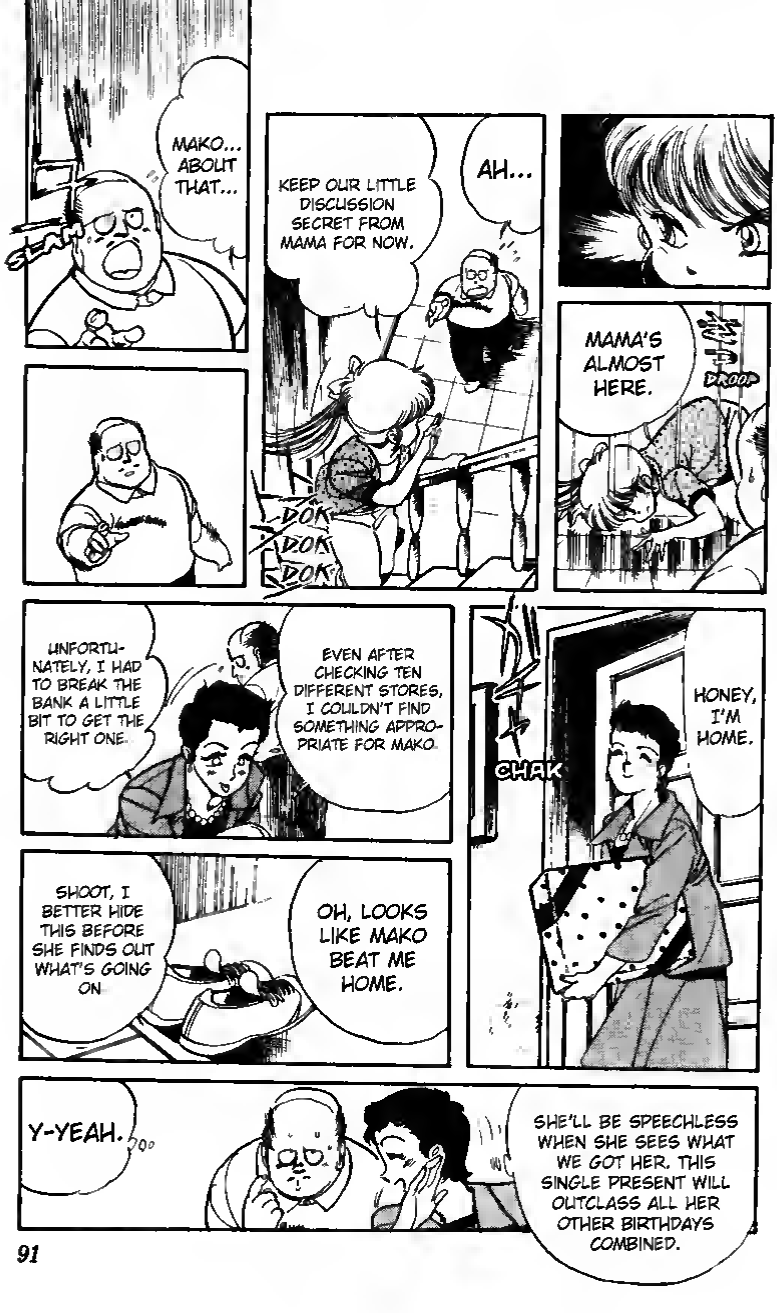

YAHAHA! WELCOME HOME, MAKO MY DEAR!!
MOOHWA!
Ran

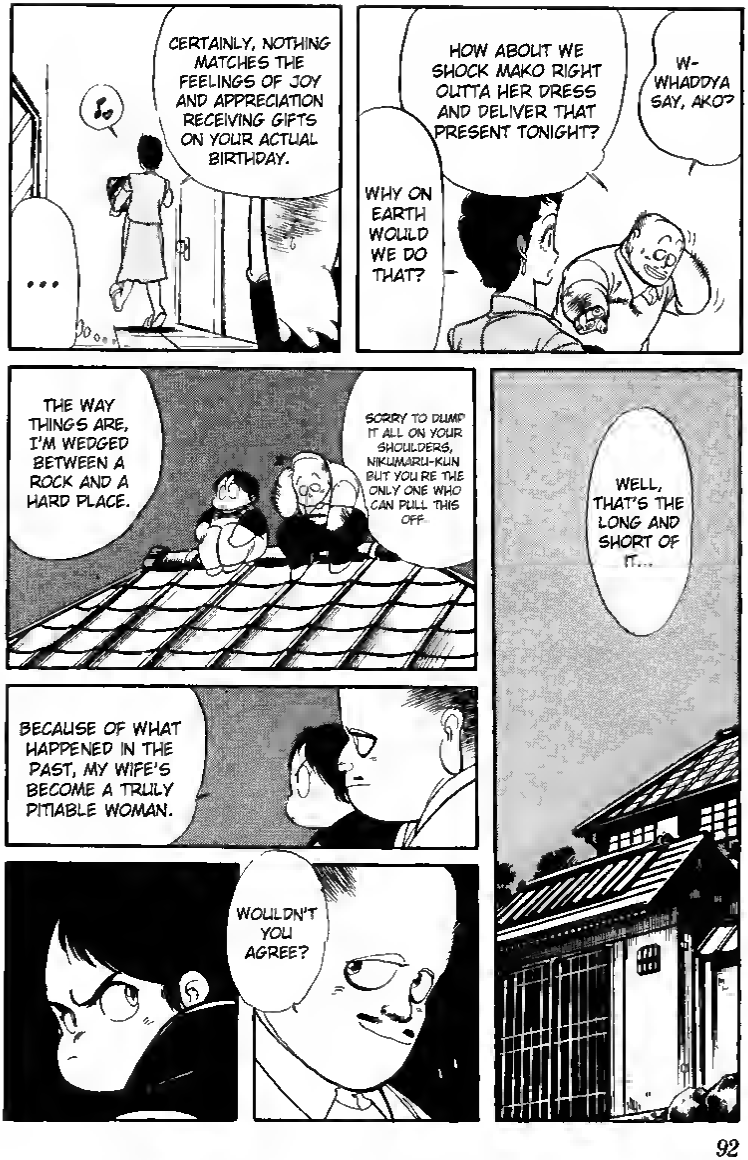
WORKING UP THE COURAGE TO EVEN OPEN THE DOOR IS TOUGH...

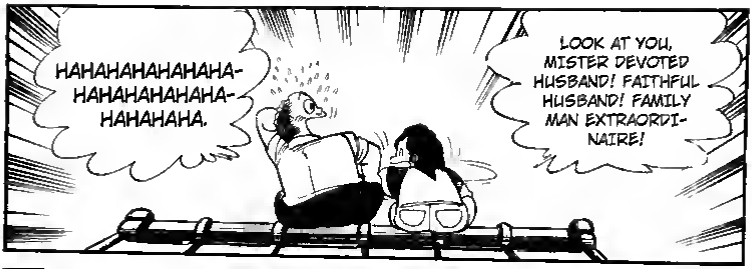

...WHERE'S MAMA?
OUT SHOPPING.
HMM-MMM.

I'M STARVING TOTALLY FAMISHED.
GOOD TIMING. I WAS HOPING YOU'D SHOW UP ABOUT NOW. NOBODY'S STARTED COOKING SLIPPER.


AS YOU'RE AWARE, TOMORROW IS MY BIRTHDAY!
WHICH BRINGS ME TO MY POINT I WANTED THE HOUSE TO THROW A BIRTHDAY PARTY.
AND NIKUMARU-KUN WOULD BE COMING♡
HM? WHAT'S BOTHERING MY DARLING DAUGHTER?
PERFECT! I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING THEN, PAPA.
SO I STARTED THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO DO. SUDDENLY, I REALIZED WE COULD JUST CELEBRATE ELSEWHERE.
NATURALLY, MAMA WOULD NEVER ALLOW IT IF SHE KNEW ABOUT MY PLANS TO HAVE HIM OVER.
MAKO...
THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN♡ I NEED PAPA'S HELP TO OCCUPY MAMA WHILE I'M AWAY.
SQUEEEZE
...
BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT MAMA WON'T INTERFERE REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE GO.
HOW ANNOYING
B-BUT, WHY NOT?
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD AGREE TO THAT IDEA.

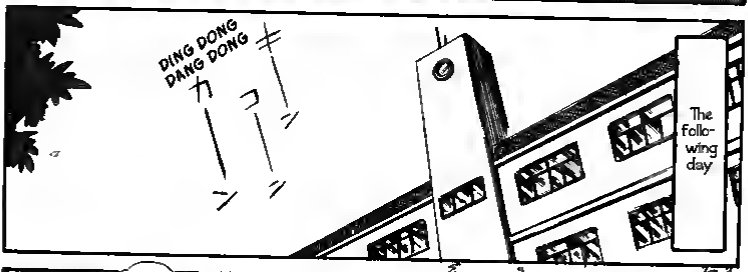

MAKO... ABOUT THAT...
STAH
AH...
KEEP OUR LITTLE DISCUSSION SECRET FROM MAMA FOR NOW.
DOK DOK DOK
MAMA'S ALMOST HERE.
DROOP
UNFORTU-NATELY, I HAD TO BREAK THE BANK A LITTLE BIT TO GET THE RIGHT ONE.
EVEN AFTER CHECKING TEN DIFFERENT STORES, I COULDN'T FIND SOMETHING APPRO-PRIATE FOR MAKO.
CHAK
HONEY, I'M HOME.
SHOOT, I BETTER HIDE THIS BEFORE SHE FINDS OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.
OH, LOOKS LIKE MAKO BEAT ME HOME.
Y-YEAH.
SHE'LL BE SPEECHLESS WHEN SHE SEES WHAT WE GOT HER. THIS SINGLE PRESENT WILL OUTCLASS ALL HER OTHER BIRTHDAYS COMBINED.

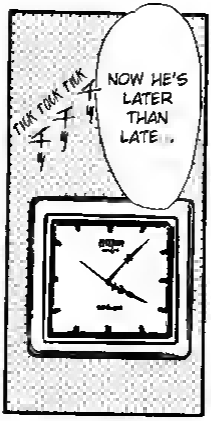

CERTAINLY, NOTHING MATCHES THE FEELINGS OF JOY AND APPRECIATION RECEIVING GIFTS ON YOUR ACTUAL BIRTHDAY.
...
W-WHADDYA SAY, AKO?
HOW ABOUT WE SHOCK MAKO RIGHT OUTTA HER DRESS AND DELIVER THAT PRESENT TONIGHT?
WHY ON EARTH WOULD WE DO THAT?
THE WAY THINGS ARE, I'M WEDGED BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE.
SORRY TO DUMP IT ALL ON YOUR SHOULDERS, NIKUMARU-KUN BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PULL THIS OFF.
WELL, THAT'S THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT...
BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST, MY WIFE'S BECOME A TRULY PITIABLE WOMAN.
WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

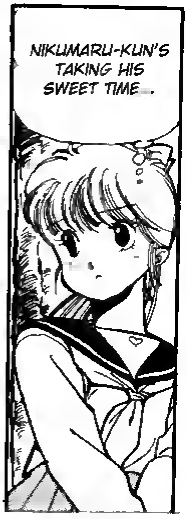

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA-HAHAHAHAHAHA-HAHAHAHA.
LOOK AT YOU, MISTER DEVOTED HUSBAND! FAITHFUL HUSBAND! FAMILY MAN EXTRAORDINAIRE!

HAHAHAHAHA-HAHAHAHA-HAHA!
BUT YOU'RE REALLY A DIRTY OLD MAN! PERVERT! LEWD FOGEY!

HAHAHAHA! HAHAHA!
...YA REAL Y. ME'S YOUNG AND FRESH DONTCHA!

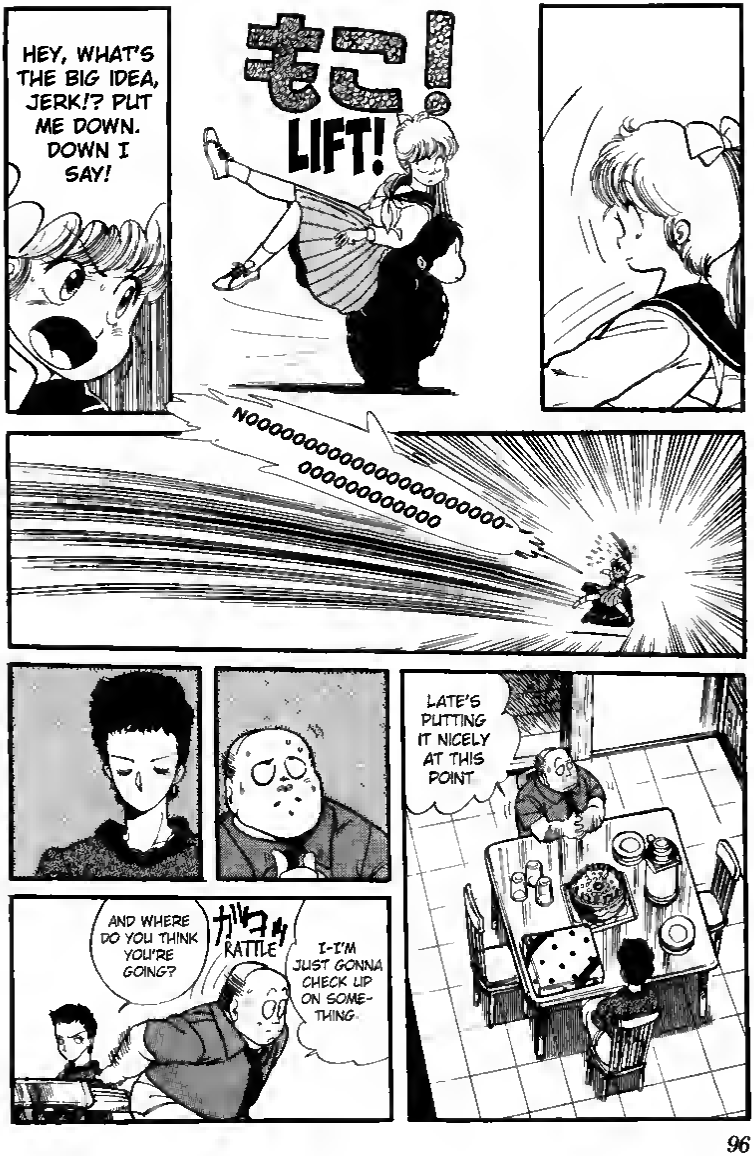

DING DONG DANG DONG
The follo-wing day


TIKK TOKK TIKK
NOW HE'S LATER THAN LATE...

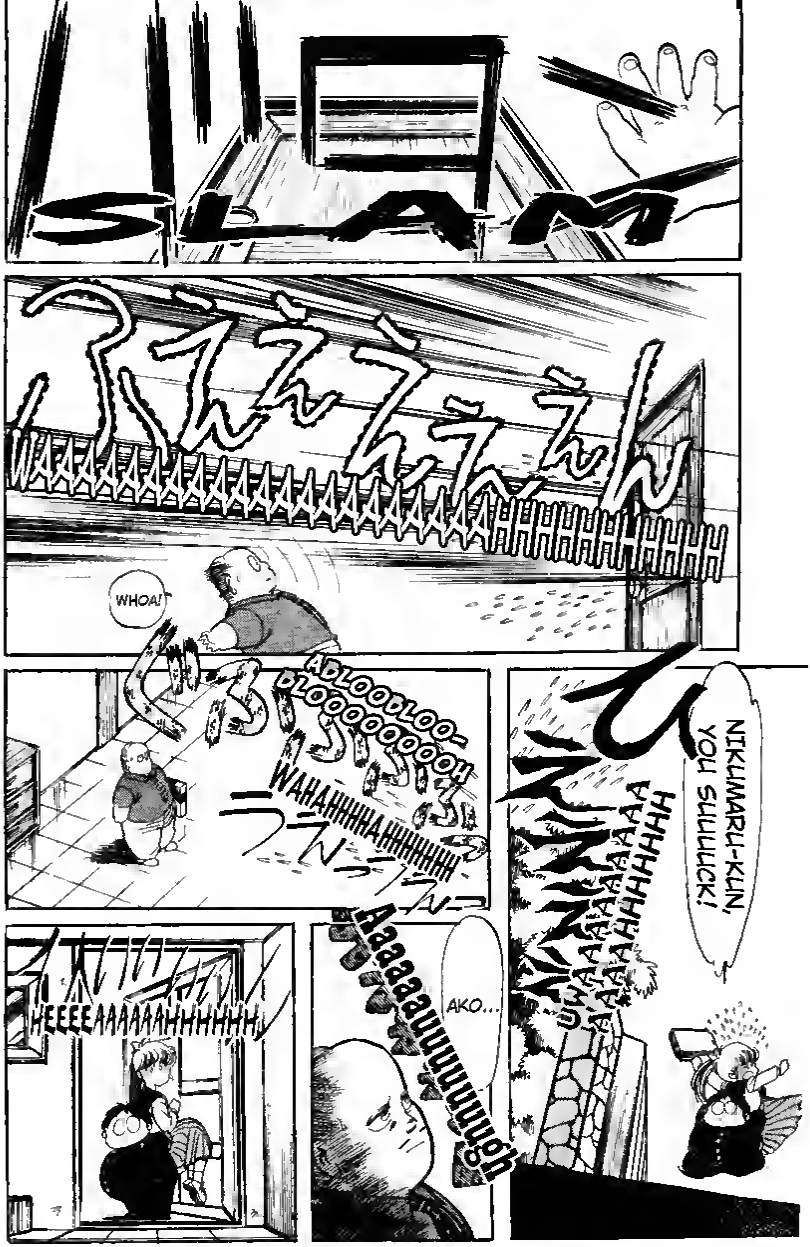

NIKUMARU-KUN'S TAKING HIS SWEET TIME...

R-RIGHT, I WONDER WHAT COULD BE KEEPING HER FOR SO LONG...
HMPH, WE EVEN LEFT FROM SCHOOL AHEAD OF TIME TO MAKE THE APPROPRIATE PREPARATIONS...
HM..
NEVER MIND
ちら!
GLANCE
N-NOT A PARTICULARLY GOOD IDEA! MAKO WILL BE HOME ANY MINUTE! SHE WOULD NEVER DECEIVE US!
PERHAPS I SHOULD CHECK UP ON HER.
S-SORRY... THINGS MUST REALLY BE TENSE AT YOUR HOUSE, THEN!
SO WHAT? TODAY WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON HAVING A GOOD TIME TOGETHER INSTEAD OF BRINGING THINGS DOWN
WHAAA-AAAT? YOU CANCELLED THE PARTY?
UMMM, WE... CAN'T DO THAT.
HMPH! WHO CARES ABOUT MY PLACE? CAN'T WE GO TO A DISCO OR SOMETHING AND PARTY LIKE WE HAVEN'T A CARE IN THE WORLD!?

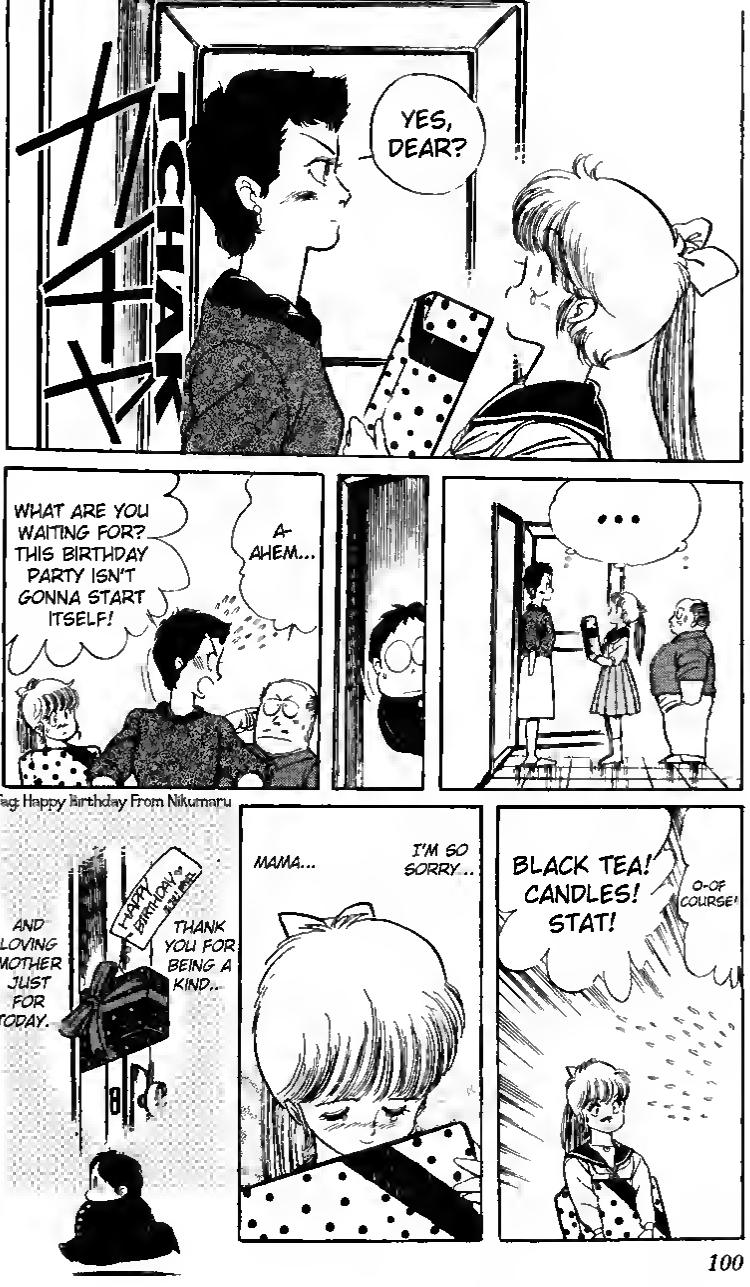
MY NOSY MOTHER IS PROBABLY WAITING TO TRAP ME THERE ANYWAYS.
GOING HOME... JUST SOUNDS HORRIBLE!
W-WELL, WOULDN'T IT BE BEST IF WE HEADED HOME TO CHANGE INTO SOMETHING LESS FORMAL?
AND WHY NOT!? TODAY'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE DAY WE DO ANYTHING I WANT!
WHY SHOULD I FEEL SORRY FOR THAT MANIPULATIVE WITCH!? JUST FORGET ABOUT MY MOTHER FOR TODAY. OR IS THAT TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR?
NO WAY! NIKUMARU-KUN, YOU'RE ACTING JUST LIKE PAPA NOW!
ANYWAYS...
DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR YOUR MOTHER AT ALL?
SPEAKING OF WHICH..
HERE GOES NOTHING
PLEASE GO HOME TODAY!
HMPH.
MAKO-CHAN.
NO!
NO MEANS NO!


HEY, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, JERK!? PUT ME DOWN. DOWN I SAY!
もこ!
LIFT!
NOOO

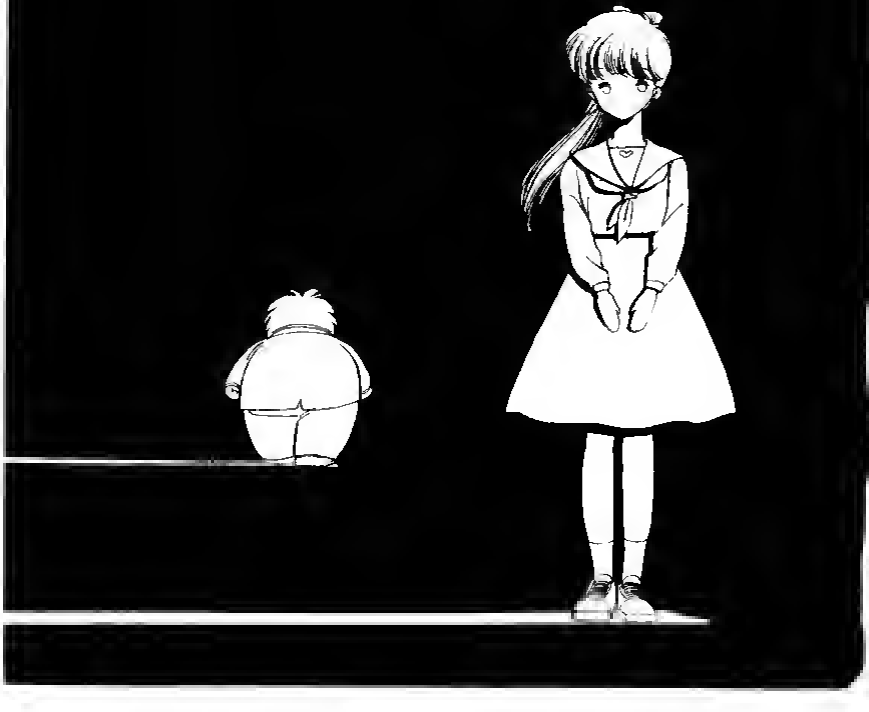
BETTER YET. WHERE IS THE SARUTOBI MONGREL?
WHERE. IS. MY. DAUGHTER?
WHERE YOU ASK..? UMM.. WELL, NOT FAR
LILP
CLENCH!
S-SLOW DOWN, HONEY. YOU'RE OVER-THINKING THIS SITUATION. EVERYTHING'S JUST A HUGE MISUNDER-STANDING.
SLAM
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
WAIT, AKO! JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY!
AKO!
DASH!

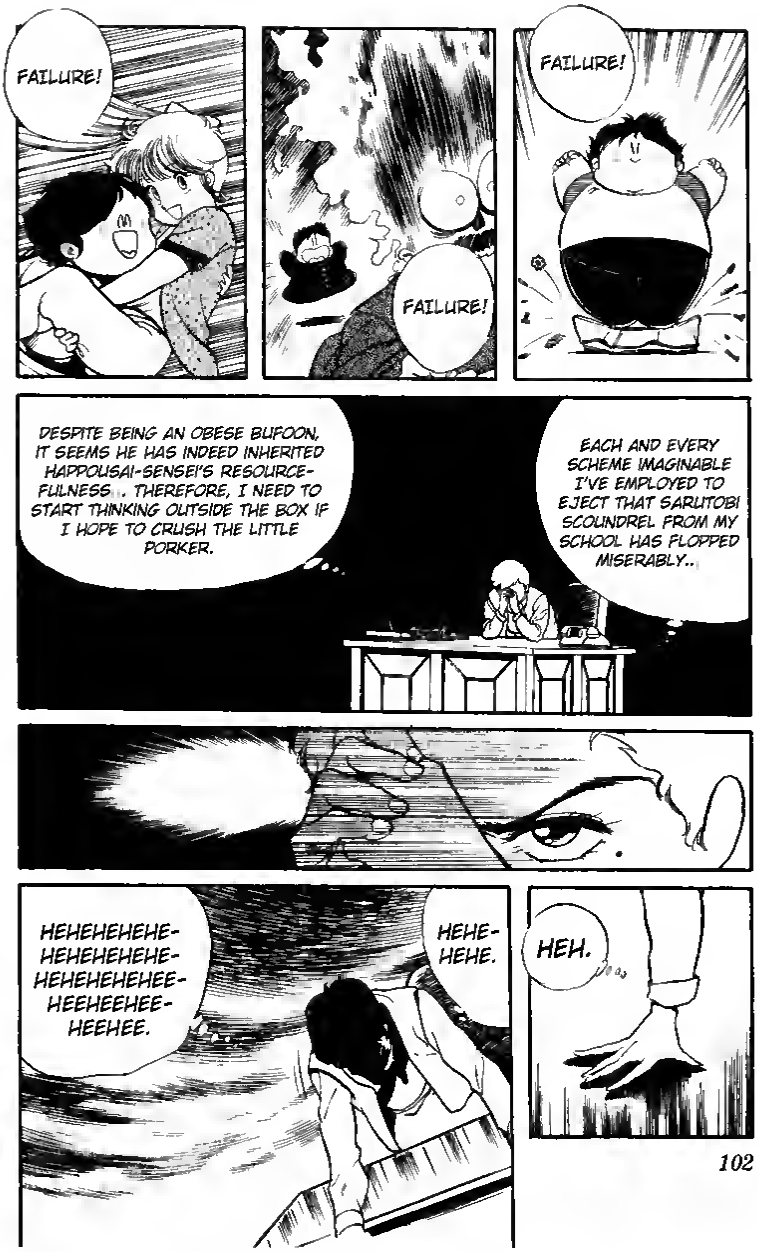

SLAM
WHOA!
ADLOODLOO-
DLOOOOOOOOH
WAHAHHHHAHHHHH
NIKUMARU-KUN, YOU SHUHUCK!
UWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHH
AKO...
Aaaaaauuuuuuugh
HEEEEAAAAAAHHHHHH

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, PAPA?
WAAA


TCHAK
YES, DEAR?
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? THIS BIRTHDAY PARTY ISN'T GONNA START ITSELF!
A-AHEM...
...
Tag: Happy Birthday From Nikumaru
AND LOVING MOTHER JUST FOR TODAY.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM!
THANK YOU FOR BEING A KIND..
MAMA...
I'M SO SORRY...
BLACK TEA! CANDLES! STAT!
O-OF COURSE!

Nikumaru and Mako's Future

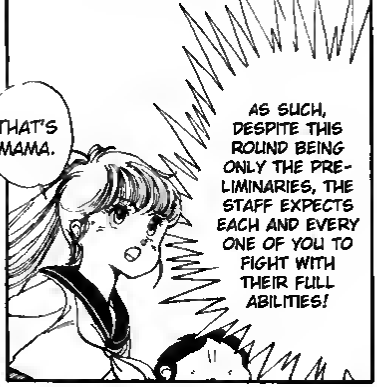



FAILURE!
FAILURE!
FAILURE!
DESPITE BEING AN OBESE BUFOON, IT SEEMS HE HAS INDEED INHERITED HAPPOUSAI-SENSEI'S RESOURCE-FULNESS... THEREFORE, I NEED TO START THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX IF I HOPE TO CRUSH THE LITTLE PORKER.
EACH AND EVERY SCHEME IMAGINABLE I'VE EMPLOYED TO EJECT THAT SARUTOBI SCOUNDREL FROM MY SCHOOL HAS FLOPPED MISERABLY...
HEHEHEHEHE-HEHEHEHEHE-HEHEHEHEHEE-HEEHEEHEE-HEEHEE.
HEHE-HEHE.
HEH.

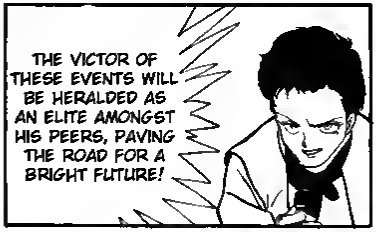
CREAAK
MWA-HAHA...
BWA-HAHA-HAHA-
IT'S IMMACULATE!! WITHOUT EVEN GETTING MY HANDS DIRTY, THIS WILL CERTAINLY KEEP THAT SARUTOBI GREMLIN AT BAY!
?
HOW COULD I HAVE OVERLOOKED SUCH A SIMPLE METHOD THIS ENTIRE TIME?
RRRRGH, MY SHOELACE TORE APART ALL OF A SUDDEN.
WHAT HAPPENED, MAKO-CHAN?
WEIRD!
AH...

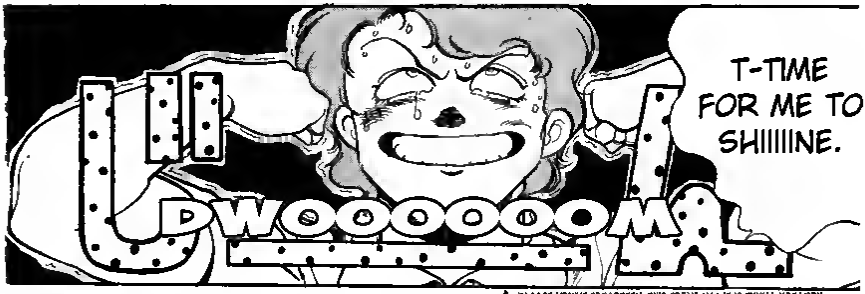
A BRAVE HERO MAKES HIS APPEARANCE.
YEESH.
WHAT WILL MAKO EVER DO?
NOW THAT MY SHOELACE IS BROKEN, I FEEL LIKE THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING TO A HORRIBLE DAY.
AHEM! WHAT WILL MAKO EVER DO?
...
HMPH! MPH!
LOOK, IT'S HATTORI-KUN.
CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP
S-SENPAI-IIIIII!
SORRY!
THWOP
SLOW DOWN AND WAIT FOR ME, SENPAI.
RUMPH! MRGH!

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD YET?
SCHOOL-WIDE GRAND WAR-GAMES?
KRUNCH
VIOLENCE IS NEVER THE ANSWER TO YOUR PROB-LEMS!
CHECK IT OUT! THE PRELIMINARY RAMPAGING CLASS BATTLE ROYALE HAS ALREADY BEGUN WITHOUT US!
RRRYAAAAAHH!
AS EXPECTED, CHALLENGING THIS PARTICU-LAR GROUP WOULD BE SUICIDE.
DON'T THINK YOU CAN PULL A FAST ONE ON ME, FREAK!


THAT'S MAMA.
AS SUCH, DESPITE THIS ROUND BEING ONLY THE PRELIMINARIES, THE STAFF EXPECTS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO FIGHT WITH THEIR FULL ABILITIES!

ATTENTION SCHOOLWIDE GRAND WARGAME PARTICIPANTS! I REPEAT, ATTENTION SCHOOLWIDE GRAND WARGAME PARTICIPANTS!
WE, THE FACULTY, REQUEST THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS TREAT THIS EXERCISE AS IF IT WERE REGULAR SCHOOL CURRICULUM.


THE VICTOR OF THESE EVENTS WILL BE HERALDED AS AN ELITE AMONGST HIS PEERS, PAVING THE ROAD FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE!

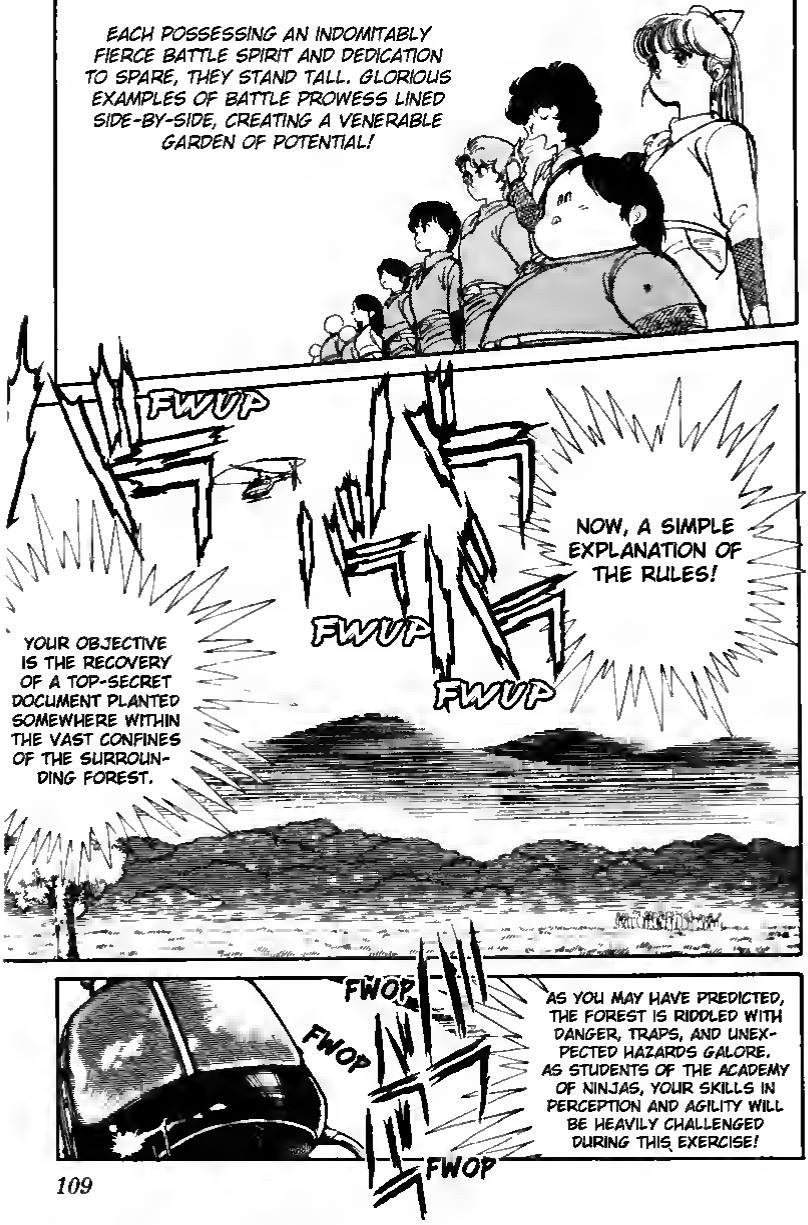

T-TIME FOR ME TO SHIIIIINE.
DWOOOOOOOM!

CANNON FODDER BEGONE!
MAYBE HE'S EXCITED TO FINALLY BE IN THE SPOTLIGHT AGAIN?
KOTAROU-SAMA'S REALLY LOST HIS FORMER DIGNITY.
Drunk on popularity

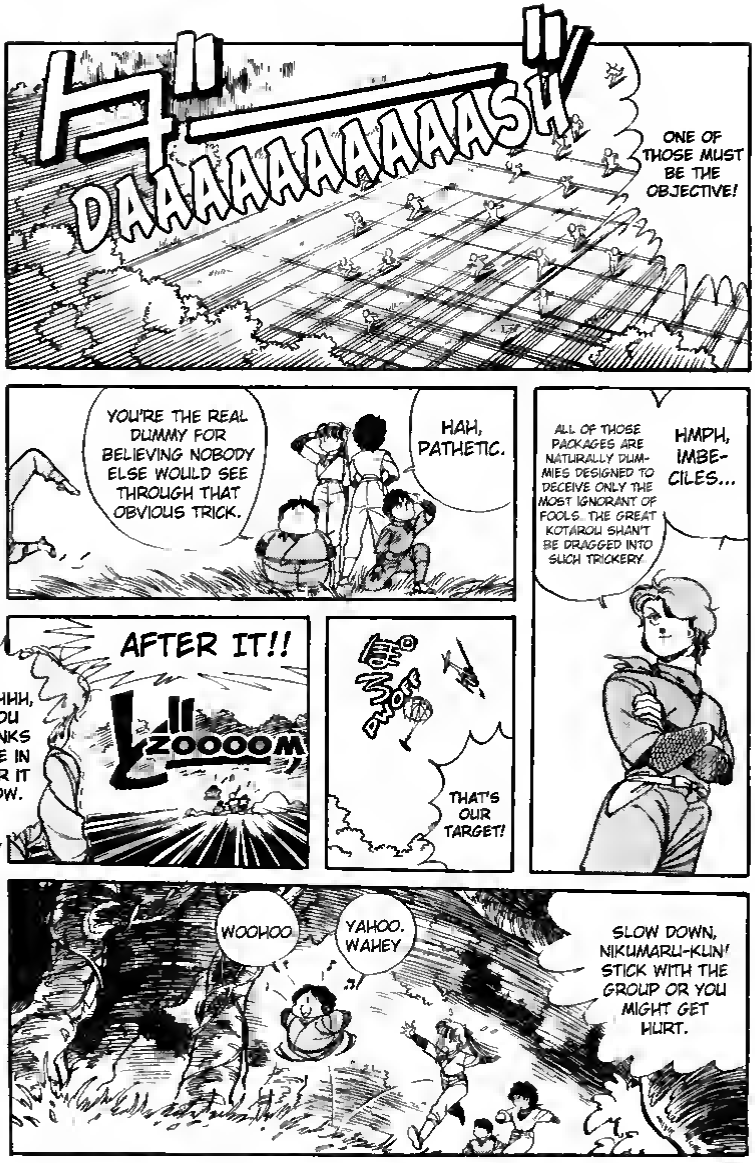
IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, THIS FOOL'S NAME IS FUUKA KOTAROU
HELL YEAH I WILL!
Kyaaah
Kick their butts Kotarou-sama

KABOOOOOOM
HOW TERRIBLE!
NIKUMARU-KUN COULD EASILY BE WIPED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH FROM THE CHAOS GENERATED FROM THESE RIDICULOUS WARGAMES. MAMA'S DEFINITELY BEHIND THIS
NOW WE'RE TALKING!
WADDLE WADDLE WADDLE
NO DEAL!
EVEN IF I GIVE YOU LUNCH FOR THREE DAYS?
WHADDYA WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?
FINE! ONE WEEK'S WORTH OF LUNCHES!
WE NEED BACKUP, MAN. OUR WHOLE CLASS IS ON THE BRINK OF DEFEAT!
SARUTOBIIIII-IIIII!!
SONIC STOMACH TECHNIQUE!

MY SHURIKEN!
EGAD!
CRUMBLE
ZAAAAAAAAAGH
STAMPEDE
TACTICAL RETREAT
USUALLY MAMA AVOIDS FLASHY VIOLENCE WHEN PLOTTING...
SOMETHING STILL SEEMS FISHY ABOUT ALL THIS...
NATURALLY, EVERYTHING IS PROCEEDING WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST HITCH! SOMETIMES, MY GENIUS TRICKERY ASTONISHES EVEN MYSELF...
YAAAAAAHHHH
HOHOHO. WHAT A MARVELOUS DISPLAY OF CARNAGE!
Behold the brave and promising few who climbed through a mountain of corpses to grasp survival...
Throughout the day, the casualties of the Academy of Ninja's first Schoolwide Grand Wargames continued to pile high.

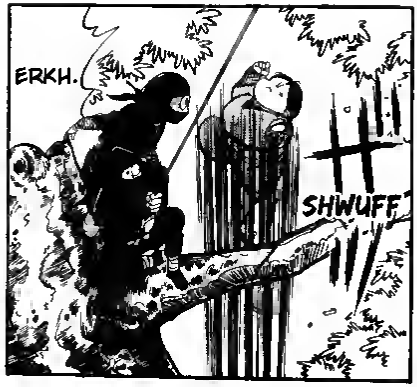

EACH POSSESSING AN INDOMITABLY FIERCE BATTLE SPIRIT AND DEDICATION TO SPARE, THEY STAND TALL. GLORIOUS EXAMPLES OF BATTLE PROWESS LINED SIDE-BY-SIDE, CREATING A VENERABLE GARDEN OF POTENTIAL!
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
NOW, A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF THE RULES!
YOUR OBJECTIVE IS THE RECOVERY OF A TOP-SECRET DOCUMENT PLANTED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE VAST CONFINES OF THE SURROUNDING FOREST.
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
AS YOU MAY HAVE PREDICTED, THE FOREST IS RIDDLED WITH DANGER, TRAPS, AND UNEXPECTED HAZARDS GALORE. AS STUDENTS OF THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS, YOUR SKILLS IN PERCEPTION AND AGILITY WILL BE HEAVILY CHALLENGED DURING THIS EXERCISE!

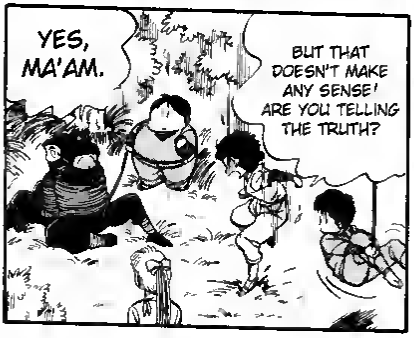
RIGHT. MAMA'S LIKELY PLANTED ASSASSIN'S WITHIN THE PARTICIPANTS TO TAKE OUT NIKUMARU-KUN. I CAN'T LET THEM GET AWAY WITH HARMING HIM.
MY, YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO BUTTER ME UP. WEREN'T THESE GAMES ONE OF YOUR MOM'S NONSENSICAL ORCHESTRATIONS?
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I CAN RELY ON HERE, MIKA..
AL-THOUGH, I'M PROBABLY READING TOO DEEPLY INTO THAT IDEA.
MIKA, WITHOUT A POSITIVE OUTLOOK, HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO WIN!?
WOULD BE NICE IF I WON. ALTHOUGH, I GET THE FEELING IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FOR ME BEFORE I KNOW IT.
THIS IS NO TIME FOR A QUAINT LITTLE PICNIC! QUIT STUFFING YOUR FACE!
SMACK
FWAHFWAHFWAHFWAH...
バラバラバラバラ...
HUH?
BEST OF LUCK WITH THE DESCENDING CHAOS, PARTICIPANTS.
BWUFF


DAAAAAAAAAAAAAASH!!
ONE OF THOSE MUST BE THE OBJECTIVE!
YOU'RE THE REAL DUMMY FOR BELIEVING NOBODY ELSE WOULD SEE THROUGH THAT OBVIOUS TRICK.
HAH, PATHETIC.
ALL OF THOSE PACKAGES ARE NATURALLY DUMMIES DESIGNED TO DECEIVE ONLY THE MOST IGNORANT OF FOOLS. THE GREAT KOTAROU SHAN'T BE DRAGGED INTO SUCH TRICKERY.
HMPH, IMBECILES...
AFTER IT!!
ZOOOOM
OHHHH, YOU PUNKS ARE IN FOR IT NOW.
PYOI
THAT'S OUR TARGET!
WOOHOO
YAHOO. WAHEY
SLOW DOWN, NIKUMARU-KUN! STICK WITH THE GROUP OR YOU MIGHT GET HURT.

WRONG
TAKING THE WINDSPEED AND DIRECTION INTO CONSIDERATION, THE REAL SCROLL SHOULD HAVE LANDED SOMEWHERE IN THIS PROXIMITY...
BIZARRE!
NO LUCK, IT'S JUST ANOTHER DUMMY!
LOOK, RIGHT IN FRONT OF US!
Scroll. Please try again
NOOOOOO
YAAAAAAAAAAH!
AAAAAAAAAAH!
WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT?
D-DID YOU GUYS HEAR THAT?
WAAA-HHHH.
FWOOOOSH
HAGY-EEEEAAA-AARGH!!

E-EXCUSE ME! ATTENTION, GROUND-FOLK.
I-IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND, COULD YOU PLEASE RELEASE ME?
KOTAROU-SAN...
DANG IT.
EEEEEEEEEEEEEK!
SWIIIIIP
WRAAAAAHH!
NIKUMARU-KUUUUN.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
SENPAIIIII!
SARUTOBI-KUN! ARE WE NOT FORMIDABLE ALLIES?
WHAT'S THE HOLDUP, NIKUMARU-KUN? GET US DOWN FROM HERE!
TUUUUUUUUG

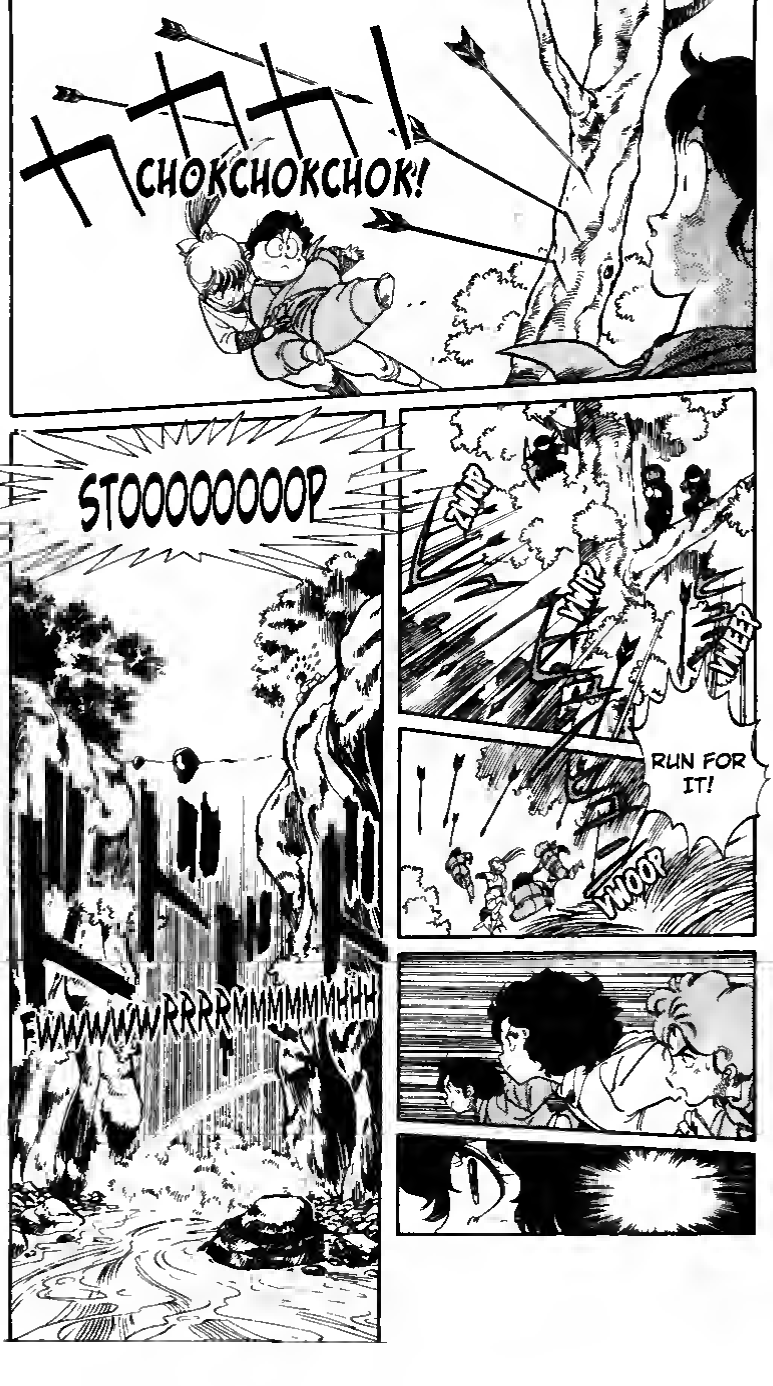

ERKH.
SHWUFF


YES, MA'AM.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE! ARE YOU TELLING THE TRUTH?

BWOOO

EXCUSE ME, PEOPLE!?
AT THE NORTHERN TIP OF THE FOREST LIES A SHRINE. YOU'LL FIND WHAT YOU NEED INSIDE...
WELL, WHERE'S THE SECRET DOCUMENT, THEN?
SHOULD'VE SAID THAT EARLIER.
SNOP
WAAAAAGH, KIRIGA-KUN, I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE THIS HEARTLESS!
FORGET HIM! IF WE STICK AROUND HERE MUCH LONGER, WE'LL GET SWAMPED BY ENEMIES BEFORE WE KNOW IT.
...
PLEASE UNLEASH ME FROM THIS TERRIBLE FATE.
OOPS, FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM.
MAN-EATER!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER!? I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY! JEEZ THIS IS GETTING OUT OF HAND
WAR-GH!
SORRY! I JUST CAN'T SAY NO TO A PRETTY FACE. ♡
MIKA!
THUNK
ISHI-KAWA-KUN...
STOP EATING!
GLAD TO BE OF HELP.

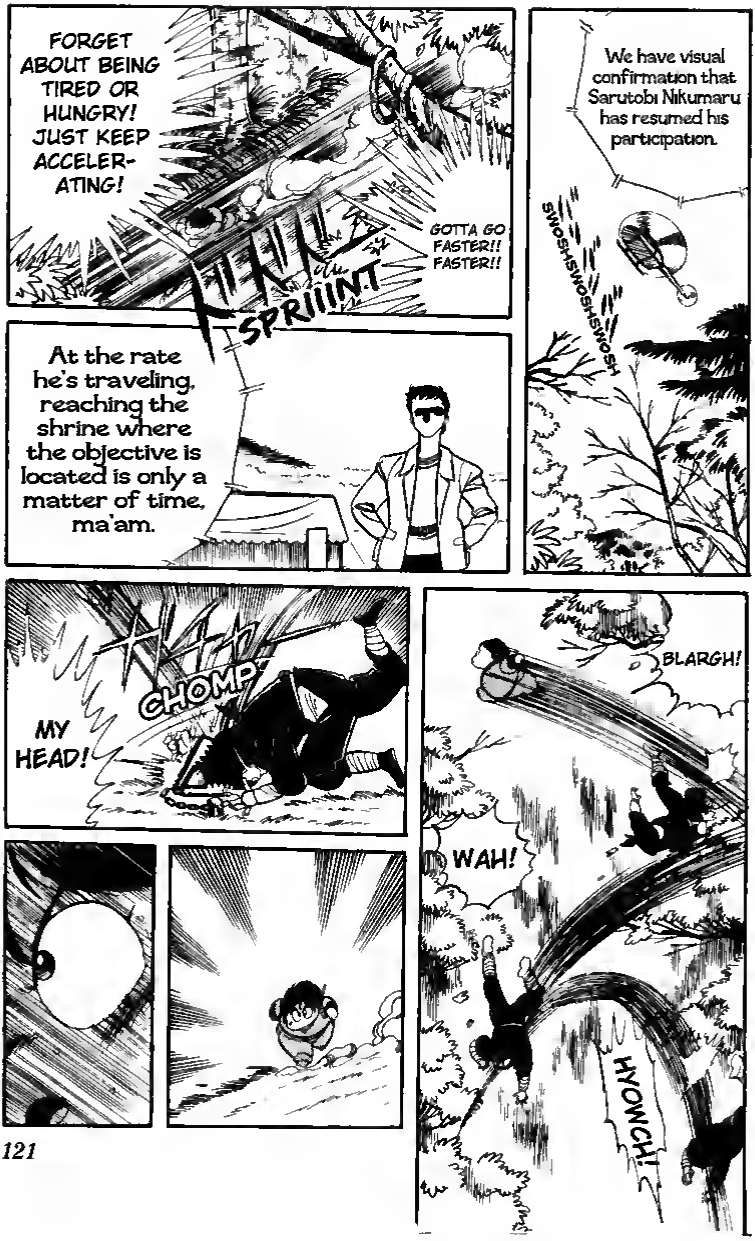
REGARDLESS, YOU'RE STILL QUITE A LOOKER.♡
QUIT DEGRADING YOURSELF BELOW THE POINT OF A NORMAL HUMAN BEING.
PLEASE ACCEPT MY GRATITUDE! I OWE YOU MY LIFE! ISHIKAWA MIKA-SAN, THE NEXT BENEVOLENT MESSIAH!
FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, YOU'RE MY PRIMARY UNDERLING! GOT IT?
I-ISHIKAWA-KUN WOULDN'T YOU AGREE THAT WE SHOULD TAKE THINGS ONE STEP AT A TIME INSTEAD OF RUSHING HEADFIRST INTO SUCH A RELATIONSHIP?
HM?
ALWAYS WANTED TO TWIST MY ARMS AROUND A HOTTIE LIKE THIS JUST ONCE IN MY LIFE.~
MIKA?
DUMB
...
SO YOU WERE COMPLETELY OBLIVIOUS THAT I WAS ENSNARING YOU, BOY? NO SURPRISE THERE.
WHA?
UNDER-LING?
EH?
WWWWMMM...

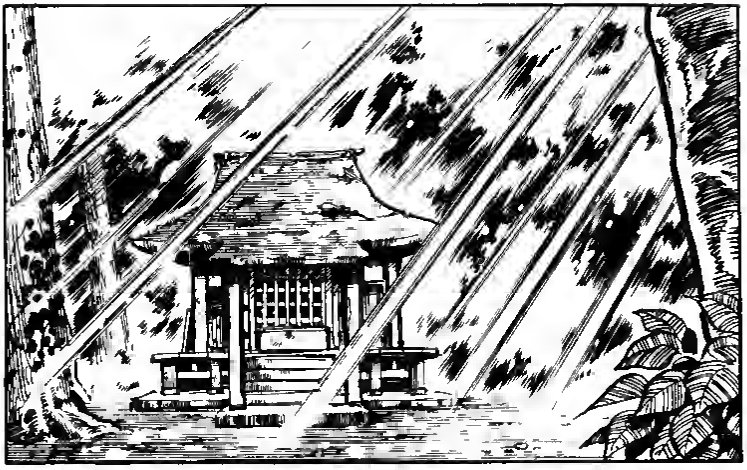

CHOKCHOKCHOK!
STOOOOOOOP
FWWWWWRRRRMMMMMMHHH
RUN FOR IT!
WOOP

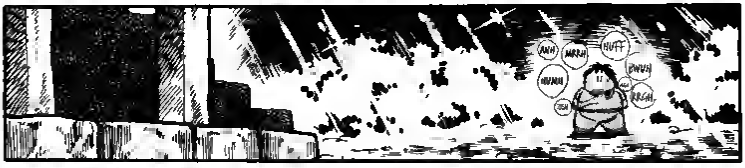
Five participants confirmed toppling over the waterfall into Great Canyon. Consider them retired from the wargames!
FWASHSHEEWASH
DONK
EH?
NO, YOU IDIOT!
TOKITOKITOK
MEATHEAAAAAD!
Ah, we've come into view of three of them just now! All three confirmed incapacitated!
NOT IN THE SLIGHTEST.
CHASING THEM OVER A WATERFALL IS KIND OF EXTREME FOR MERE TRAINING, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHATEVER YOU SAY, DEAR.
No affirmable presence of the group that tumbled over the waterfall, sir.

Wait! There's something fiercely hanging onto the cliff-face!! Th-That's...
SARU-TOBI!
SARUTOBI NIKUMARI IS CLUTCHING TO THE WATERFALL'S ROCKY CLIFFS, SLOWLY CLIMBING BACK TO THE TOP!
BUAABUAABUAH
NIKUMARU-KUN, I CAN'T HOLD ON...
JUST A BIT LONGER! DON'T LET GO UNTIL WE MAKE IT!!

HAHH.
HAUH.
HRGH.
BLEH.
WEERE.
YIKES.
DUNANANANANANAAAAA...
SKKPH
HOPEFULLY, YOU CAN PULL THROUGH THE REST OF THE EXERCISE. I REALLY WANNA SEE THE LOOK ON MAMA'S FACE WHEN YOU EMERGE VICTORIOUS..
I'M GONNA CALL IT A DAY HERE..
MAKO-CHAN...
COME CLOSER... NIKUMARU-KUN...
NIKUMARU-KUN, NO MATTER WHAT, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY NUMBER ONE!
YOU WERE INCREDI-BLE♡


FORGET ABOUT BEING TIRED OR HUNGRY! JUST KEEP ACCELERATING!
GOTTA GO FASTER!! FASTER!!
SPRIIINT
We have visual confirmation that Sarutobi Nikumaru has resumed his participation.
SWOSHSWOSHSWOSH
At the rate he's traveling, reaching the shrine where the objective is located is only a matter of time, ma'am.
CHOMP
MY HEAD!
BLARGH!
WAH!
HYOWCH!

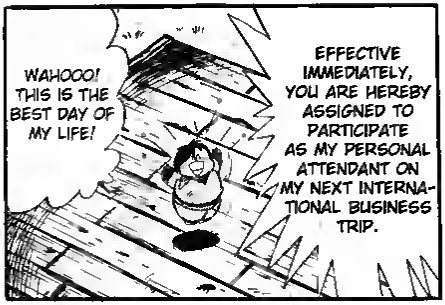


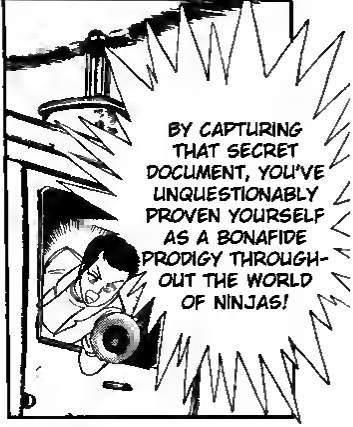

AHH
MRRJ
HUFF
HMMM
PWUH
UGH

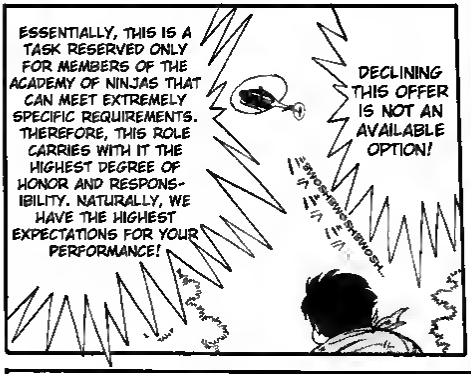
TARGET LOCATED...

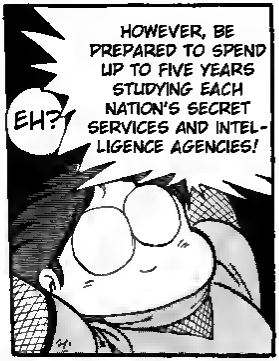
CREEEAK

BITE
RUUMMMBLE
EEEEEE...
BOUND
HUP!
COLLAPSE
HMPH!
YWUHYWUHYWUHYWUH
SARUTOBI NIKUMARU HAS CLAIMED THE OBJECTIVE!!


WAHOOO! THIS IS THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE!
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, YOU ARE HEREBY ASSIGNED TO PARTICIPATE AS MY PERSONAL ATTENDANT ON MY NEXT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRIP.


BY CAPTURING THAT SECRET DOCUMENT, YOU'VE UNQUESTIONABLY PROVEN YOURSELF AS A BONAFIDE PRODIGY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD OF NINJAS!


ESSENTIALLY, THIS IS A TASK RESERVED ONLY FOR MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS THAT CAN MEET EXTREMELY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS. THEREFORE, THIS ROLE CARRIES WITH IT THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF HONOR AND RESPONSIBILITY. NATURALLY, WE HAVE THE HIGHEST EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR PERFORMANCE!
DECLINING THIS OFFER IS NOT AN AVAILABLE OPTION!
"HOMMIKAZE SAMURAI SCHOOL"


EH?!
HOWEVER, BE PREPARED TO SPEND UP TO FIVE YEARS STUDYING EACH NATION'S SECRET SERVICES AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES!

TRAVELLING ABROAD...

Mako's Resolve

SARUTOBI'S LEAVING?
AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENT?
THEY SAY HE'LL BE STUDYING THE CIA.
OTHER AGENCIES LIKE NATO AND MI6 TOO.
APPARENTLY, HE MIGHT NOT COME BACK FOR FIVE YEARS OR EVEN LONGER
HE'S GONNA BE THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS REPRESENTATIVE?
BWHAM

HMPH...
MY, SOMETHING SEEMS AMISS.
WHATEVER COULD BE THE PROBLEM?
I'LL MAKE THIS QUICK.
AS ANYONE COULD TELL FROM YOUR EXPRESSION, YOU MEAN BUSINESS. VERY WELL, I AM HERE TO BE CONSULTED, AFTER ALL...
D-DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE RUSHING INTO THINGS WITHOUT CLEARLY THINKING THEM THROUGH, CHAIRWOMAN?
AREN'T YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR POSITION AS CHAIRWOMAN SIMPLY TO ACCOMPLISH YOUR SELFISH DESIRES? KNOWING NIKUMARU-KUN WOULD NEVER AGREE TO LEAVE THE ACADEMY WILLINGLY, YOU GAVE HIM AN ASSIGNMENT HE COULDN'T REFUSE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
KIRIGA-SAN
BEFORE I ANSWER THAT, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU OF MY OWN. WHAT KIND OF INSTITUTE DO YOU THINK THIS ACADEMY IS?
W-WELL, IT'S THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS. ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS...?
PRECISELY!

CURRENTLY, SARUTOBI IS UNDENIABLY FAR ABOVE THE OTHER STUDENTS IN TERMS OF HIS TECHNIQUE SEEKING GLORY BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, WHO ARE WE TO HALT HIS PROGRESS TOWARDS NEW HEIGHTS? ALL OF THE FACULTY ARE EXPECTING WONDERFUL THINGS TO COME FROM THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM.
YET YOU WHOLE-HEARTEDLY REJECT THIS VALUABLE EXPERIENCE... TELL ME, IF A STUDENT OF THIS ACADEMY REFUSES SUCH A CHANCE, DOES HE HONESTLY BELONG HERE?
A SCHOOL FOUNDED BY PRESTIGOUS NINJAS DESIGNED TO RAISE THE OF YOUTH INTO ANOTHER GENERATION OF PROMISING SHINOBI!
THAT IS THE SOLE PURPOSE AND INTENTION OF THIS VERY BUILDING WE ARE STANDING IN!
THE SCHOOLWIDE GRAND WARGAMES WERE NOT SOME PETTY AND CHILDISH SCHOOLYARD EVENT! SARUTOBI PROVED HIMSELF AND SURVIVED THE HARSH DEMANDS! WHAT MORE COULD HE HAVE DONE TO ESTABLISH HIMSELF AS BEST ON CAMPUS!?
DON'T GIVE ME THAT OFFICIAL NONSENSE! ANYONE WITH A FUNCTIONAL BRAIN COULD TELL THAT THOSE WARGAMES YOU PUT TOGETHER WERE JUST A BIG TRAP FOR NIKUMARU-KUN!
AS A NINJA YOURSELF, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE THE ONLY OBSTACLE STANDING BETWEEN SARUTOBI ACCESSING A WORLD'S WORTH OF KNOWLEDGE. DO YOU EVEN REALIZE THAT?

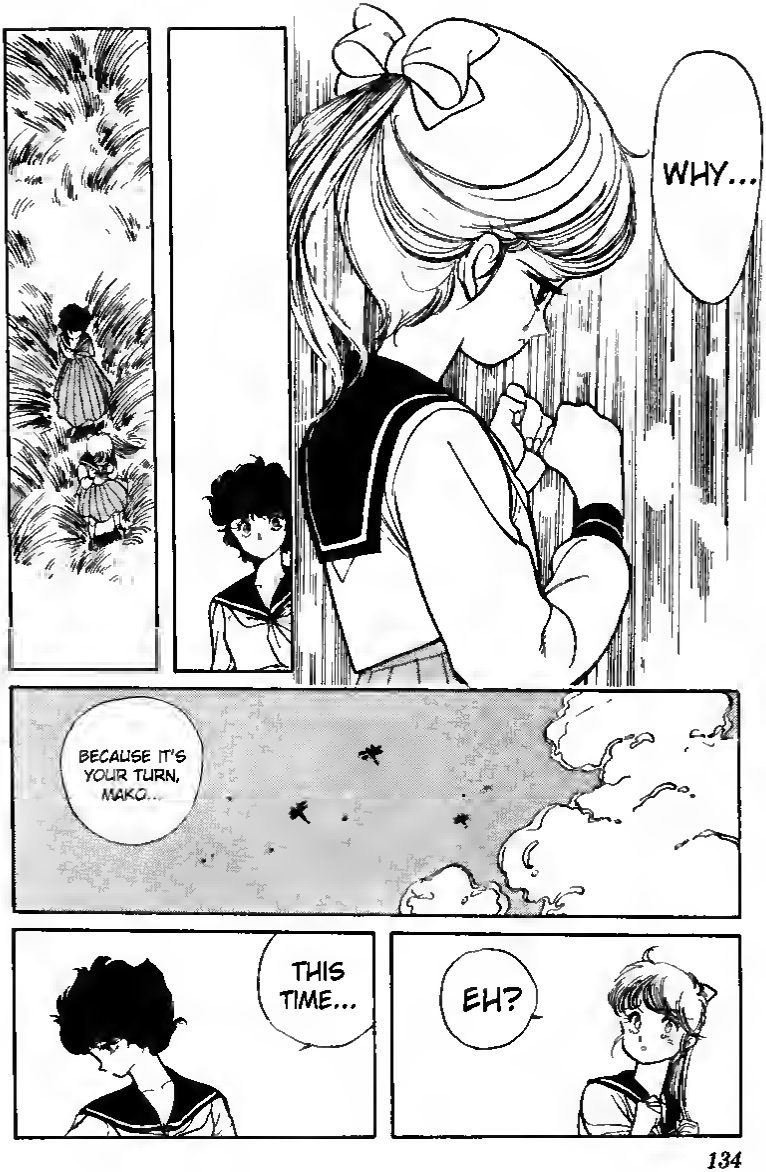
NIKUMARU-KUN...
IMPROVE HIMSELF THAT MUCH..?
NIKUMARU-KUN WANTS TO...
?
VICTORY IS MINE!
NOW YOU'VE REALLY PROVEN YOURSELF AS THE MAN OF THE SARUTOBI FAMILY! MY OWN GRANDSON! BRAVELY HEADING OUT INTO THE UNKNOWN!
HAHAHA
WHEW, YOU REALLY REELED IN A WHOPPER THIS TIME, NIKUMARU!
CHEERS.
CHEERS!!

COME ON, TAKE GRANDPA WITH YOU, LITTLE BUDDY! WADDYA SAY? I COULD BE YOUR CHAPERONE, OR HOWEVER YOU SAY IT!
BUT, HOLY SMOKES, GLOBE-TROTTING! JUST SAYING IT IS GIVIN' ME THE GOOSE-BUMPS!
HAHAHA-HAHAHA!
SOMEHOW, SHE REALIZED THE POTENTIAL WITHIN YOU! I MUST'VE DONE SOMETHING RIGHT, TEACHING THAT GIRL!
ALTHOUGH, I SUPPOSE WE OWE A CERTAIN DEGREE OF GRATITUDE TOWARDS KIRIGA AKO!
COME TO THINK OF IT, IN TERMS OF KUNOICHI SKILL, SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO MATCHED YOUR MOTHER, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!
I'M NOT GOING ANY-WHERE
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MISSING OUT ON ANYTHING WITHOUT ME.
LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT TRAVELING OVERSEAS
WANNA RUN THAT BY ME AGAIN, SONNY BOY? MY HEARING AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE.
SUCH A SHAME.
NIKUMARU, DID YOUR BRAIN FINALLY DIGEST ITSELF!?

LISTEN UP!
REFUSE THAT OFFER AND YOU'RE IN FOR A WORLD OF PAIN AND SUFFERING!
THUNK!
BOING!
GENUINE FRENCH CUISINE!
ITALIAN PASTA! SPANISH SPICES!
YOU'D ACTUALLY MISS OUT ON THAT!?
NOD
LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND TELL ME THAT YOU DEFINITELY WANT TO ASSAULT THE COUNTLESS DELICACIES WAITING FOR YOU TO DEVOUR THEM!
TO STAY HERE.
I ALREADY DECIDED...
STILL...
WHAT AN HONEST YOUNG MAN. FIVE YEARS WILL GO BY BEFORE WE KNOW IT.
ALRIGHT, YOU AREN'T LYING.
ISN'T HE?
NIKUMARU, SUCH A SPLENDID GRANDSON.

NEW YORK.
LONDON,
PARIS.
BONN.
ROME.
REGARDLESS, THEY'RE ALL A RIDICULOUS DISTANCE FROM JAPAN
AS A NINJA, SARUTOBI NIKUMARU HAS NO REASON TO STAY BEHIND IN THIS LONELY COUNTRY.
THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR HIM.

FURTHERMORE, HER OFFICIAL STANCE ON THE SITUATION IS SOMETHING NO ONE SHOULD HAVE A REASON TO OBJECT!
ON ONE END OF THE SCALES, WE HAVE NIKUMARU'S LIMITLESS POTENTIAL WEIGHING THAT DOWN IS YOUR RELUCTANCE TOWARDS SEPERATION, MAKO. THAT'S WHAT THINGS BOIL DOWN TO, AT LEAST.
THE CHAIR-WOMAN IS CERTAINLY CUNNING
STOP RIGHT NOW!
DESPITE BEING JUST A FRIEND, EVEN I REALIZE THAT'S THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER...
ANYONE CAN TELL. KEEPING NIKUMARU TIED DOWN TO JAPAN IS WRECKING HIS DEVELOPMENT.
THE WORLD COULD REALLY BENEFIT FROM A MAN OF HIS SKILL GOING INTERNATIONAL, Y'KNOW?
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!!
WHY DO WE HAVE TO BE SPLIT APART FOR SO LONG!?
WHY IS MAMA ALWAYS TRYING TO CREATE A GAP BETWEEN US AT EVERY STEP!?
WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN NOW!?
MAKO!!
WHY SHOULD NIKUMARU-KUN HAVE TO LEAVE JAPAN!?

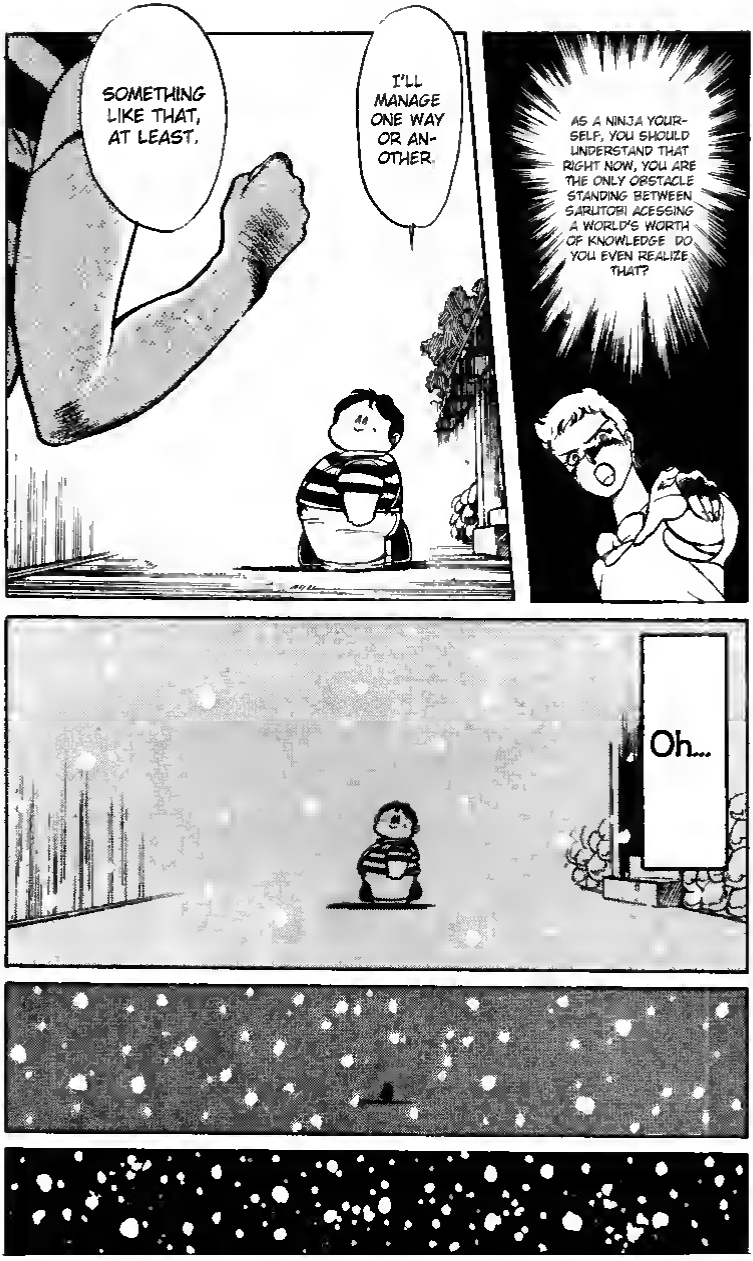

WHY...
BECAUSE IT'S YOUR TURN, MAKO...
THIS TIME...
EH?

WHOOO

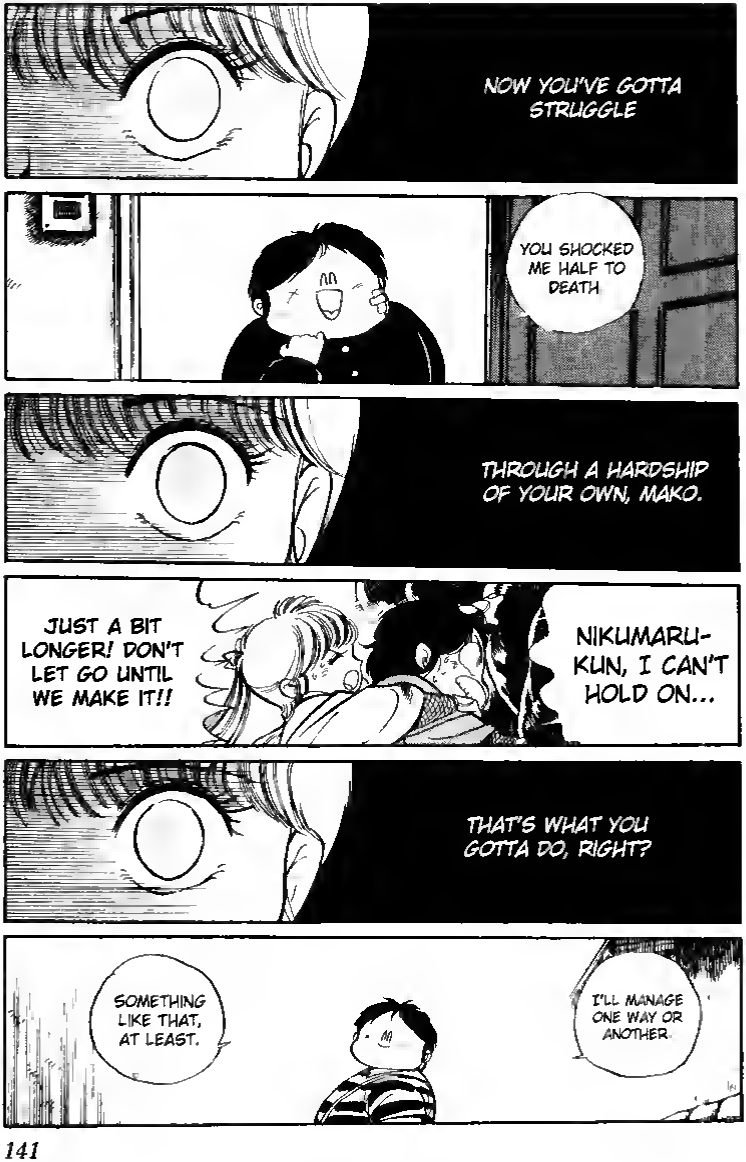
WHY DO YOU THINK HE DECIDES TO GRIT HIS TEETH AND BEAR IT FOR YOU, MAKO?
SPLISH SPLASH SPLUSH
やば
やば
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
HOWEVER YOU LOOK AT IT, THAT'S WHAT YOU GOTTA DO, RIGHT?
NOW YOU'VE GOTTA STRUGGLE THROUGH A HARDSHIP OF YOUR OWN, MAKO.

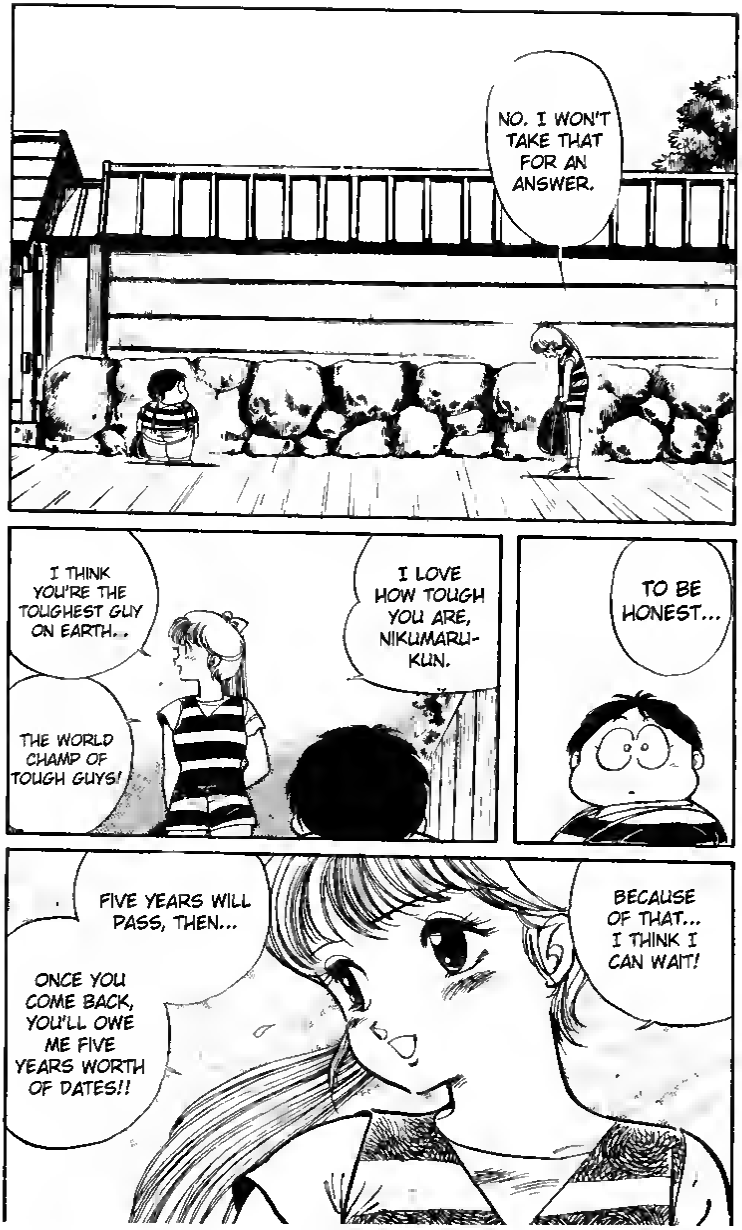
WOW, THAT WAS A TOTAL BLAST!
YEAH, GLAD YOU HAD FUN TOO!
LET'S GO ON A DATE AGAIN
REAL SOON♡
HUH?
TOMOR-ROW.
AND THE NEXT DAY.
THE WEEK AFTER TOO.
ALL OF NEXT MONTH.
YEAR AFTER YEAR DATES GALORE.
FOREVER AND EVER.

I'VE DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT THE CHAIRWOMAN'S OFFER TO ACCOMPANY HER OVERSEAS.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, MAKO-CHAN.
NIKUMARU'S ALWAYS LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR BEST INTERESTS, MAKO.
WITHOUT THE ACADEMY'S TEACHINGS, HOW ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BECOME A NINJA?
WHY DO YOU THINK HE DECIDES TO GRIT HIS TEETH AND BEAR IT FOR YOU, MAKO?
IF YOU REFUSE, YOU'LL BE EXPELLED FROM THE ACADEMY!
BUT...
NIKUMARU-KUN.


SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AT LEAST.
I'LL MANAGE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
AS A NINJA YOURSELF, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT RIGHT NOW, YOU ARE THE ONLY OBSTACLE STANDING BETWEEN SARUTOBI ACESSING A WORLD'S WORTH OF KNOWLEDGE DO YOU EVEN REALIZE THAT?
Oh...

FATTY-FATFAT-MCFATTENSTEIN!
I SAID MOVE IT!
NIKUMARU'S GONNA DIIIIEEE.
HE'S GONNA DIE...
YOUR BACK'S REALLY WARM.
LIKE THIS...
THIS TIME...
I KNOW YOU BULLIED MAKO-CHAN!!
YOU BULLIED HER!!


NOW YOU'VE GOTTA STRUGGLE
YOU SHOCKED ME HALF TO DEATH.
THROUGH A HARDSHIP OF YOUR OWN, MAKO.
JUST A BIT LONGER! DON'T LET GO UNTIL WE MAKE IT!!
NIKUMARU-KUN, I CAN'T HOLD ON...
THAT'S WHAT YOU GOTTA DO, RIGHT?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AT LEAST.
I'LL MANAGE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.


NO. I WON'T TAKE THAT FOR AN ANSWER.
I THINK YOU'RE THE TOUGHEST GUY ON EARTH...
I LOVE HOW TOUGH YOU ARE, NIKUMARU-KUN.
THE WORLD CHAMP OF TOUGH GUYS!
TO BE HONEST...
FIVE YEARS WILL PASS, THEN...
BECAUSE OF THAT... I THINK I CAN WAIT!
ONCE YOU COME BACK, YOU'LL OWE ME FIVE YEARS WORTH OF DATES!!

GOOD-
BYE.

MA...
MAKO-CHAN!
FIVE YEARS SHOULD BE NOTHING...
...
A MAN SHOULD KNOW WHEN TO BACK DOWN.
!
THAT'S ALL THE ADVICE I HAVE TO GIVE YOU!
MOM-MY...
MAKO-CHAN'S RIGHT. IF YOU WANT TO PROVE YOURSELF TO HER, YOU SHOULD TAKE THE TRIP.

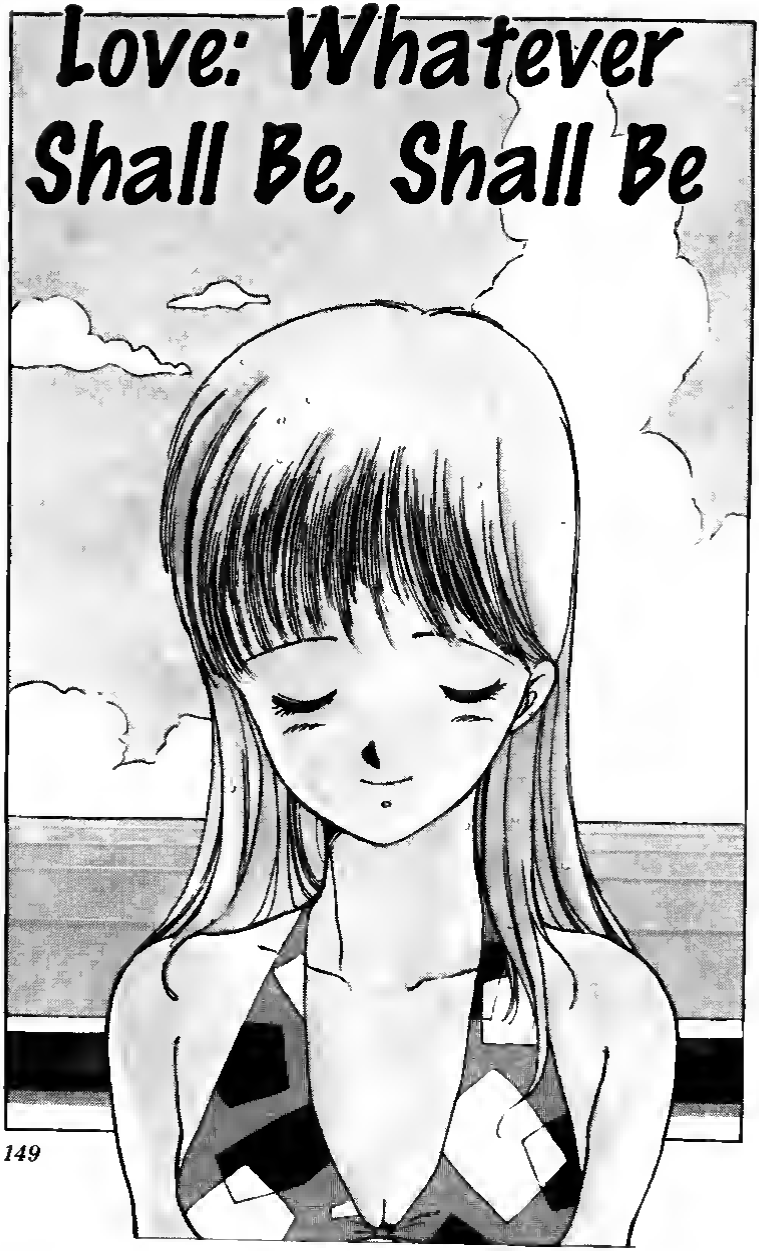
MAKO...
SEI
YU

Sign. Yamaguro Clinic
Mako...?
I ASSUME YOU'RE PLEASED WITH YOURSELF.
JUST AS YOU PLOTTED, YOUR DAUGHTER AND MY SON ARE NOW OFFICIALLY SEPERATED FOR FIVE YEARS
WELL, AKO?

PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE, AS HAVING YOUR OWN SON BECOME THE ACADEMY OF NINJA'S INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE IS QUITE AN EXTRAVAGANT HONOR.
DESPITE OUR OPPPOSITION, I'M GLAD YOU DECIDED TO TAKE A BACKSEAT AND GIVE YOUR SILENT APPROVAL TO THE WHOLE ORDEAL.
HOHOHO.
THIS TIME, EVERYTHING CAME THROUGH PERFECTLY, KASUMI...
RIGHT YOU ARE.
HMPH, COMPLAINING IS UNFORTUNATELY THE RIGHT OF THE LOSER!
INDEED, YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE, AKO! WITH NIKUMARU GONE FROM THE HOUSE, OUR GROCERY BILL IS CERTAINLY GOING TO TAKE A MONSTROUS NOSEDIVE!
I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D REFRAIN FROM STICKING YOUR HEAD WHERE IT DOESN'T BELONG, KASUMI!
HOWEVER, I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU AS A MOTHER FOR CRUSHING THE HEART OF YOUR VERY OWN DAUGHTER...
!
I'LL STICK WHATEVER I PLEASE WHEREVER I FEEL NECESSARY, THANK YOU VERY MUCH...

WHERE ARE YOU TRYING TO GO WITH THIS?
THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF YOUR DAUGHTER INTEREST ME HEAVILY AFTER ALL, SHE IS A MAJOR SUBJECT OF CONCERN WITHIN THE SARUTOBI FAMILY.
WERE YOU UNAWARE THAT HE PLANS TO MAKE MAKO HIS BRIDE!?
FIVE YEARS DOWN THE LINE, WHEN NIKUMARU FINISHES HIS DUTY AS YOUR ATTENDANT AND RETURNS TO THE SARUTOBI HOUSEHOLD...
DID YOU HONESTLY THINK I'D CONSENT TO GIVING MY DAUGHTER'S HAND TO THAT PORKCHOP?
TH-THAT'S PREPOSTEROUS!
TODAY'S THE DAY WHEN WE FINALLY SETTLE EVERYTHING BETWEEN YOU AND I, AFTER ALL.
I BELIEVE YOU WILL.

Love: Whatever Shall Be, Shall Be

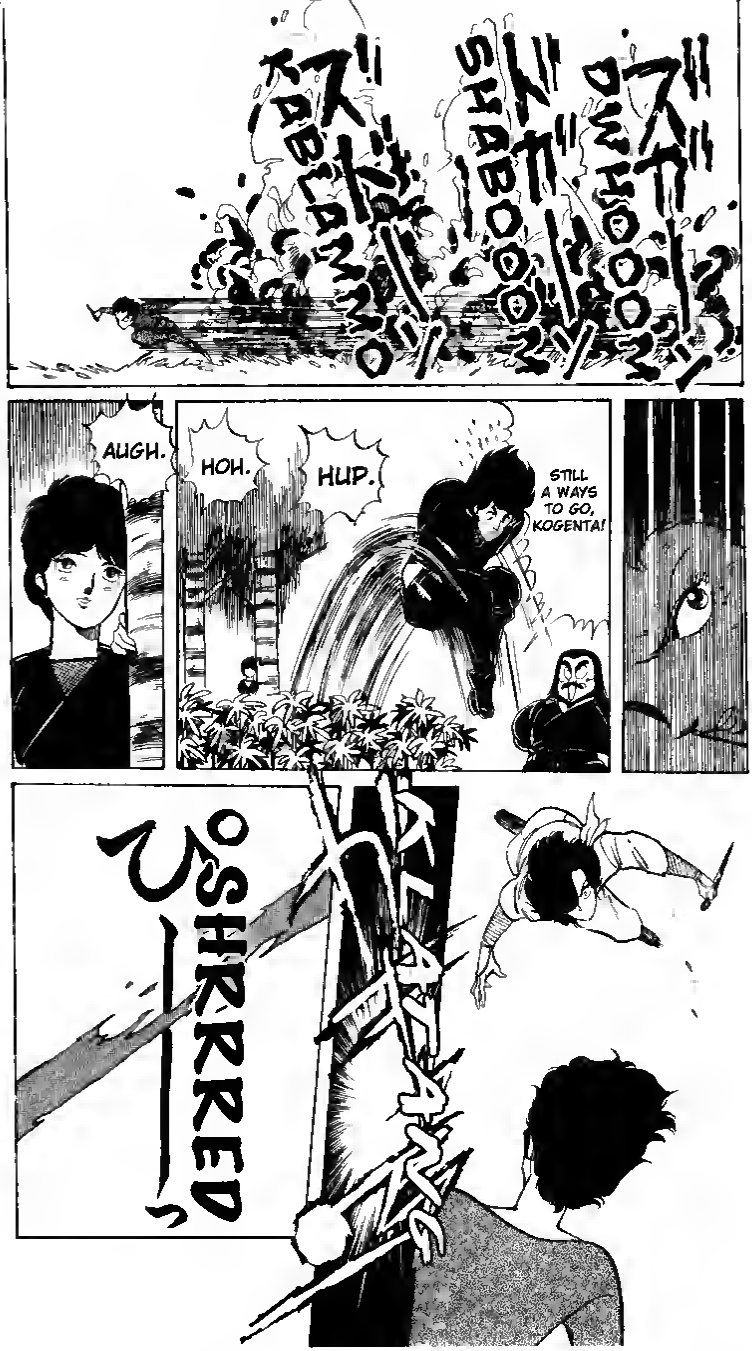


DWOING
BWOING
BOING
QUICK-CHECK
BOUNCEOUNCEOUNCE
STONG
KACHUNK
GACHUNK
KACHUNK
GACHUNK
KAKANG
GACHAK
KACHUNK
GACHUNK
GATANG

KACHUNK
ガタン
GACHUNK
ガタン
KAKLACH
ガタン
GATLING
ガタン
KACHIK
ガタン

DON'T THINK I'LL JUST STAND ASIDE AND LET YOU HAVE YOUR WAY WITH MY DAUGHTER'S FUTURE, KASUMI!
MAKO-CHAN SHALL BECOME NIKUMARU-KUN'S BRIDE. THERE'S NO IFS, ANDS, OR BUTS ABOUT IT, AKO!!
YOU'RE STILL RUSHING FULL-FORCE WITHOUT CONSIDERING OTHERS' OPINIONS. LEOPARDS TRULY CANNOT CHANGE THEIR SPOTS
I'M SURE EVEN AN IRRATIONAL WOMAN SUCH AS YOURSELF CAN UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS BEHIND MY PROPOSAL.
SHRRRP
I THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE SETTLING EVERYTHING. ARE YOU SURE THAT'S ALL YOU WANT TO SAY?
CHANGING THE SUBJECT, I SEE. WHY NOT TRY FACING THE MATTER HEAD-ON, AKO?
SHRRRP
SHNIP
SLASH!

Instantaneously, the two mothers exploded into an uncontrollable deathmatch overflowing with hatred beyond my understanding.
Before I could intervene, a vicious fight broke out!
RRRRRRYAAAAAAHHHHHH!!
CHARGE
AKO...
COULD IT BE THAT YOU STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER KO-GENTA...?
KABWHOOOOOOOOM


ズゴゴゴゴ
DOWOOOO
ドガガガガ
SHABOOOO
ズバババババ
BABAMMM
AUGH.
HOH.
HUP.
STILL A WAYS TO GO, KOGENTA!
ズバアアア

SAVE YOUR BREATH CORRECTLY MAINTAINED FOOTGEAR COULD POTENTIALLY BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE OR DEATH FOR A NINJA. NOT TO MENTION, YOU ALWAYS NEGLECT MAINTAINING YOUR EQUIPMENT. PLEASE, JUST ALLOW ME TO HANDLE THIS.
H-HOLD ON, AKO-SAN. YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUIN YOUR HANDKERCHIEF FOR SOMETHING SO MINOR
AAAA

KASUMI, YOU CAN'T BE...
AKO, HOW SHOULD I BREAK THE NEWS TO HIS FATHER?
I'M PREGNANT WITH KOGENTA-SAN'S CHILD...
IT FINALLY HAPPENED.
YEP...
VWOOO

GACHUNK
ガタン
GACHUNK
ガタン
GACHUNK
ガタン
GACHUNK
ガタン
GAGRRUNG
ガタン
KAKAKONG
ガタン
GACHLUK
ガタン
GAKLAK
ガタン
...
PROMISE ME ONE THING. MAKE SURE MAKO'S TAKEN CARE OF WHILE I'M GONE.
PLEASE, MA'AM.
NIKU-MARU!
SARU-TOBI...

SARUTOBI...
I BELIEVE YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS...
THE BEST YOU CAN.
NO.
MAMA WASN'T AT THE SCHOOL EITHER...?
WHAT ON EARTH COULD BE TAKING HER SO LONG TO COME HOME?
NO, THANK YOU FOR CHECKING.
YES.
I UNDER-STAND.
WAIT, LET ME COME WITH YOU!
WELP, GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME PAPA STARTS CHECKING AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
BUT...
I NEED YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR AND WATCH THE HOUSE WHILE I'M GONE, MAKO.

MAKO, YOU'RE A VERY KIND DAUGHTER.
I HOPE YOU KNOW, PAPA LIKES YOU BEST THAT WAY.
...
NOD!
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF A WOMAN YOUR MOTHER IS
YOU'RE THAT WORRIED?
AKO!!
SPLOSHSLOSH
BSSH!

どぴゃあああああ
SPLUSH
たじ
FREEZE
LET'S HEAD BACK. MAKO'S WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU.
I CAN'T GO HOME.
MAKO CAN'T STAND TO EVEN LOOK AT ME.
I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO CALL MYSELF HER MOTHER...
SHE HAD THE SAME EYES
MY OWN DAUGHTER HAD THE EXACT SAME EXPRESSION IN HER EYES.
HEARTBROKEN AND WITHOUT HOPE. THE SAME LOOK I HAD ON THAT FATEFUL DAY.

AKO!?
WHAT'S WRONG, AKO?
AKO!!
I'M SORRY.
SO SORR...
FORGIVE ME, MAKO.
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME
PLEASE...
DON'T HATE ME...
FORGIVE ME, MAKO.
ギィ…
CREEEEK
SHUT…
ぁあああ…DELUゅミ

THANKS FOR COOKING, BUT MAMA'S ASLEEP NOW.
BACK WHEN I FIRST MET THOSE GIRLS AS KUNOICHI, THEY WERE INSEPERABLE FRIENDS...
ULTI-MATELY...
THEY HAD IT ALL, I TELL YA GOOD LOOKS AND NINJA TECHNIQUE TO BOOT. IT REALLY IS A DAMN SHAME THEY BECAME MORTAL ENEMIES OVER SOMETHING SO TRIVIAL ..
AT THE END OF EVERYTHING, THE DAUGHTER OF A CERTAIN NINJUTSU TEACHER CAME OUT AHEAD.
MAKING THINGS WORSE, NEITHER OF THESE POOR GALS REALIZED THE OTHER ONE WAS MADLY IN LOVE WITH THE EXACT SAME GUY. .
WHAT RIPPED THEM APART WAS A SINGLE MAN. BOTH WOMEN FELL HEAD OVER HEELS FOR THE SAME LUCKY BUGGER

WHEN THAT MOMENT ARRIVED, AN IRREPARABLE RIFT TORE LOOSE THE BINDS THAT ONCE REPRESENTED A STRONG AND BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP...
THROUGH SOME BIZARRE TWIST OF FATE, THE CHILDREN OF THE TWO WOMEN BECAME FAST FRIENDS GROWING UP, EVENTUALLY FALLING IN LOVE THEMSELVES.
TOGETHER, THEY WERE BLESSED WITH A WONDERFUL DAUGHTER AND LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER...
OR SO IT SEEMED.
AFTERWARDS, THE DISCARDED YOUNG LADY TRIED TO MOVE ON AND FELL IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER MAN
HOW-EVER...
"THAT WENCH HAS SNATCHED AWAY SOMETHING I'VE LOVED A SECOND TIME"!!
HER ONLY THOUGHT WAS, "SHE'S DONE IT AGAIN"!!
STILL HARBORING FEELINGS OF JEALOUSY TOWARDS HER FORMER FRIEND, THE SAME WOMAN'S HEART AND JUDGMENT BEGAN TO SWIRL NEGATIVITY AND RESENT INTO A MALICIOUS MAELSTROM!
DROWNING IN A CHURNING SEA OF HATRED, SHE DECLARED WAR ON HER NEMESIS, DETERMINED TO DISMANTLE HER 'PLOT'... REGARDLESS OF WHAT SUFFERING SHE WOULD INFLICT ON HER DAUGHTER BY DOING SO.

YOUR MOTHER LOVES YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD.
NO MATTER WHAT, YOU WERE ALWAYS IN HER HEART, MAKO.

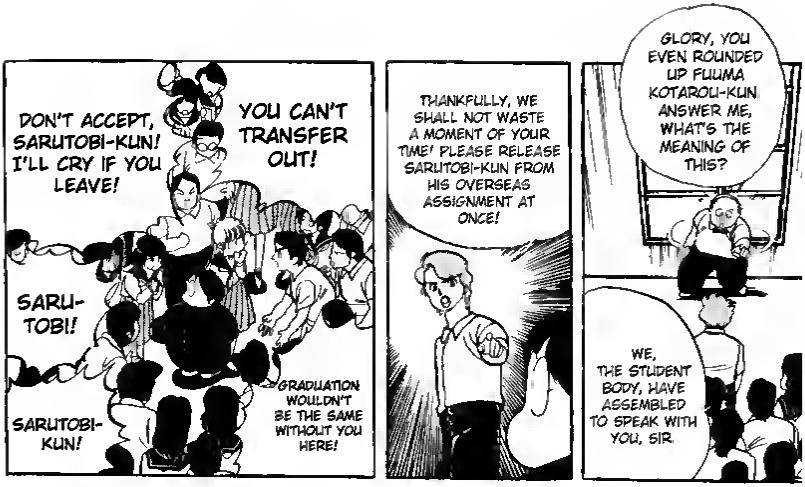
MAMA...
I DIDN'T HEAR ANY-THING FROM NO KASUMI.
HOW ELSE COULD YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THAT?
THAT WAS THE ONE THING I HAD HOPED TO KEEP A SECRET FROM YOU...
AKO.
SO, YOU HEARD FROM HER ..
ABOUT KASUMI...
BUT I WAS EXACTLY THE SAME. YOU WERE CONSTANTLY MY FOCUS OF ATTENTION AND ANXIETY.
BACK THEN, YOU COULDN'T TAKE YOUR EYES OR MIND OFF KOGENTA.
WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE TO LEARN FROM ANYONE I ALREADY KNEW MYSELF.

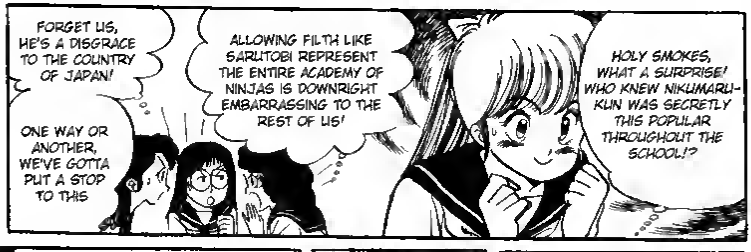
I'LL RECONSIDER THE SITUATION.
ABOUT SARUTOBI'S PLANNED OVERSEAS TRANSFER..
M-MAYBE I'VE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK TONIGHT.
I'VE LOST THE WILL...
MAMA...
THIS SHOULDN'T BE ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING ANYTHING.
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
WHICH ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING MORE THAN SHOWING EVERYONE HOW SELFISH I TRULY AM.
THE ENTIRE TIME, I'VE BEEN CAUSING HAVOC AND TENSION OVER SOMETHING COMPLETELY WORTHLESS.
I WENT ON A MINDLESS RAMPAGE, BREWING STRIFE AND HARMING THOSE I LOVE!
WITHOUT CONSIDERING THE FEELINGS OF MY OWN HUSBAND OR DAUGHTER...

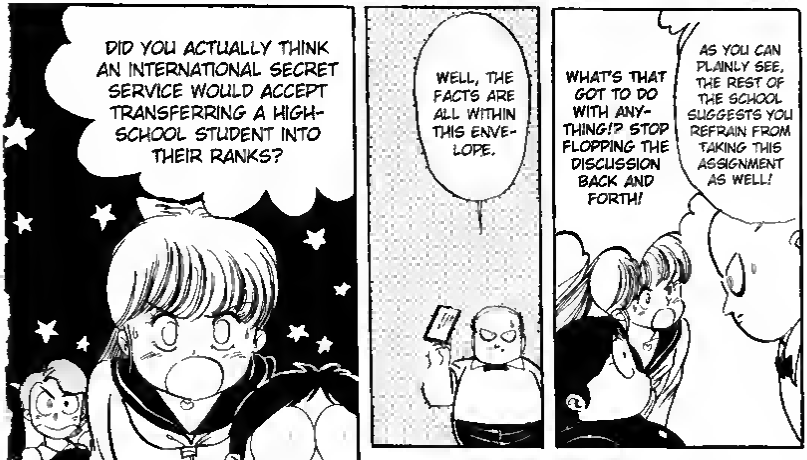
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME FOR ALL THE HORRIBLE THINGS I'VE SELFISHLY PUT THE BOTH OF YOU THROUGH.
DARLING.
MAKO.
BUT EVERY-THING'S OKAY. REALLY.
THANK YOU, MAMA...
THAT MEANS SO MUCH
WAITING FOR NIKUMARU-KUN IS A BRIGHT NEW WORLD. MISSING OUT ON A CHANCE LIKE THIS BECAUSE OF MY PER-SONAL FEELINGS WOULD JUST INTERFERE WITH NIKUMARU-KUN'S FUTURE!
WHAT YOU SAID THE OTHER DAY KEPT RUNNING THROUGH MY MIND.
MAKO.
NIKUMARU-KUN SHOULD TAKE YOUR OFFER TO STUDY INTERNA-TIONALLY. THAT'S WHAT I THINK NOW ..

SO, I'LL BE PATIENT AND WAIT.
ONE DAY, NIKUMARU-KUN WILL RETURN TO ME STRONGER THAN EVER, AFTER BECOMING THE WORLD'S BEST.
Academy of Ninjas
123 Shinobi Hill
Tokyo, Japan
HMPH.

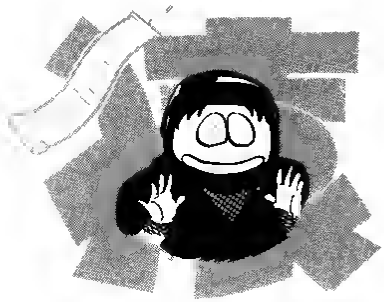
SO, YOU'VE MADE YOUR DECISION.
YES SIR.
THE WORLD'S A BIG PLACE.
PACKED TO THE BRIM WITH THINGS A YOUNGSTER LIKE YOU CAN'T HOPE TO UNDERSTAND AT THAT AGE! I SINCERELY HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT!
THAT BEING SAID...
H-HANG ON! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL BY SAYING THAT NOW, PAPA!?
JAPAN ISN'T AS SMALL AS MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE! THERE'S STILL TONS OF THINGS YOU CAN LEARN RIGHT HERE WITHOUT TAKING A STEP OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, NIKUMARU-KUN!!
CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP
BWHAM
SWEET MOTHER OF PEARL, WHAT ARE YOU KIDS THINKING BARGING INTO MY OFFICE!?


DON'T ACCEPT, SARUTOBI-KUN! I'LL CRY IF YOU LEAVE!
YOU CAN'T TRANSFER OUT!
SARU-TOBI!
SARUTOBI-KUN!
GRADUATION WOULDN'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU HERE!
THANKFULLY, WE SHALL NOT WASTE A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME! PLEASE RELEASE SARUTOBI-KUN FROM HIS OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT AT ONCE!
GLORY, YOU EVEN ROUNDED UP FUUMA KOTAROU-KUN. ANSWER ME, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
WE, THE STUDENT BODY, HAVE ASSEMBLED TO SPEAK WITH YOU, SIR.

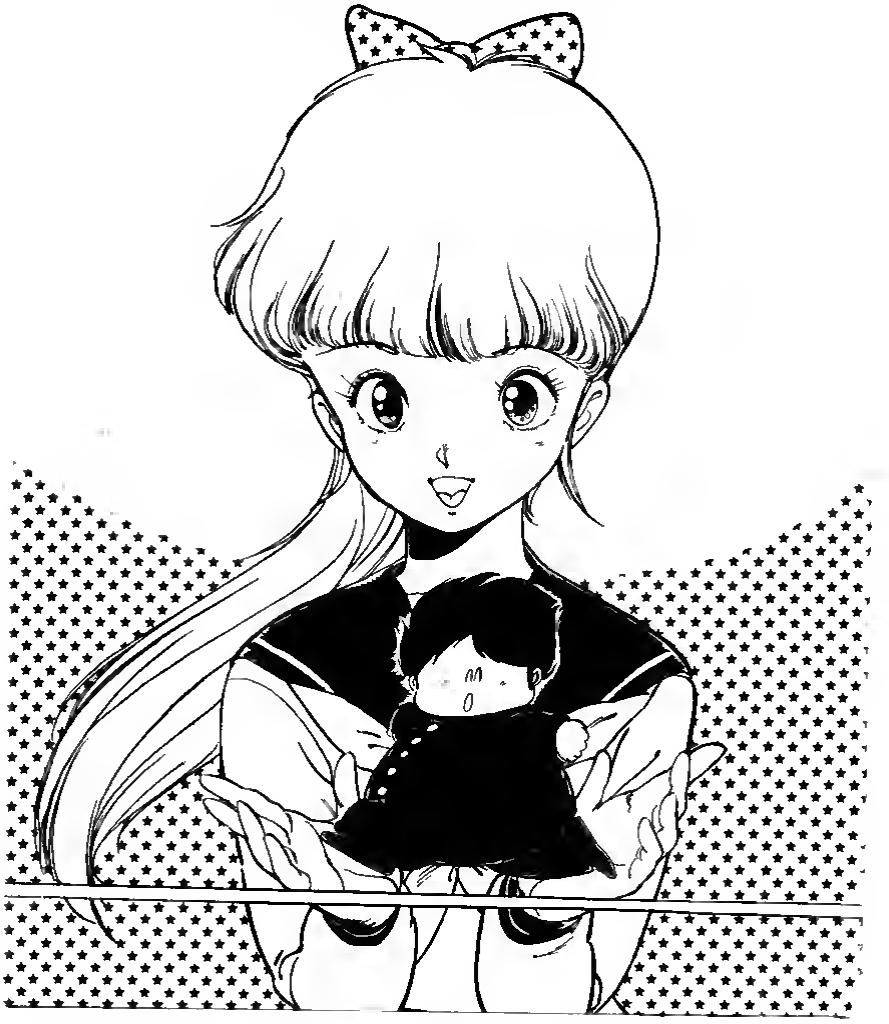

FORGET US, HE'S A DISGRACE TO THE COUNTRY OF JAPAN!
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE'VE GOTTA PUT A STOP TO THIS
ALLOWING FILTH LIKE SARUTOBI REPRESENT THE ENTIRE ACADEMY OF NINJAS IS DOWNRIGHT EMBARRASSING TO THE REST OF US!
HOLY SMOKES, WHAT A SURPRISE! WHO KNEW NIKUMARU-KUN WAS SECRETLY THIS POPULAR THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL!?


DID YOU ACTUALLY THINK AN INTERNATIONAL SECRET SERVICE WOULD ACCEPT TRANSFERRING A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT INTO THEIR RANKS?
WELL, THE FACTS ARE ALL WITHIN THIS ENVE-LOPE.
WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANY-THING!? STOP FLOPPING THE DISCUSSION BACK AND FORTH!
AS YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE, THE REST OF THE SCHOOL SUGGESTS YOU REFRAIN FROM TAKING THIS ASSIGNMENT AS WELL!

WELL, EXCUSE MEEEEEE!
ULP...
UPON INSPECTING THE DOCUMENTS...
WHISPER
I THOUGHT MAMA HAD CONNECTIONS! YOU KNOW, PULL A FEW STRINGS HERE, CALL IN A FAVOR THERE!
WHAT'S THAT MEAN!?
ABOUT THAT...
COMMON SENSE JUST MAKES THAT CHOICE EVEN MORE NATURAL, HAHAHA.
WELL, IF I WAS IN THEIR BOOTS, I'D PROBABLY SAY THE SAME THING
CHATTER CHATTER
YAHOO
WASN'T STEALTHY ENOUGH TO BE A SPY, APPARENTLY!
THEY TURNED HIM DOWN JUST FROM SEEING THE PHOTO.
UGH, MY HEAD IS KILLING ME...
...



Life's Next Great Importance



According to the acquired information, it is an institute dedicated to the training and development of students towards becoming fully qualified ninjas.
Welcome to the top-secret Academy of Ninjas.
This week's practical focus. Walk without making a single sound!!

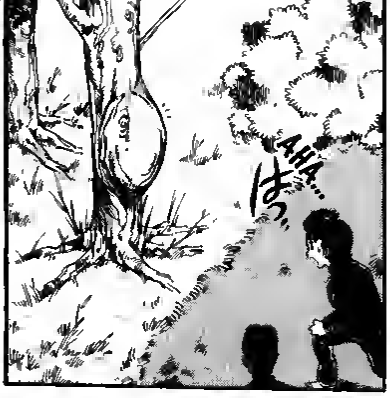
ACTION
SHUFF
SHUFF
SHUFF
OH, MORNING, SENSEI!!
HOW DO YOU DO, SENSEI?
MORNING, EVERYONE.
GOOD MORNING, SIR.
CHECK IT OUT OGATA'S CRUISING THROUGH THE HALLS AT RECORD SPEED WITHOUT MAKING A SINGLE SOUND WITH HIS FEET!!
OGATA-SENSEI'S SO TALENTED
THAT'S ME, CAN I HELP YOU?
SAAARU-UUUITOOO-BIIII NI-IIKUUU-MAAAR-RUUUU!!
ROLLOBOL-LOMOLLO!!
WHO CARES HOW YOU MOVE THROUGH THE HALLS AS LONG AS YOU KEEP SILENT ABOUT IT!? ROLLING'S FAIR GAME IF YOU ASK ME!
ROLLO!
ROLLING DOES NOT COUNT!!

TAKTAKTAK
This week's practical focus: Walk without making a single sound!!
HEY, THE SIGN SAYS NO SOUNDS!!
IGNO-RAMUS!!
YEEEEEEEP, SARUTOBI'S OUTROLLING OGATA...
Shuff Shuff Shuff!
IS THIS FOR REAL...?
UGH!!
Sign: Persevere
NIKUMARU-KUN, ANY CLUE WHY OGATA-SENSEI LOOKS LIKE HE JUST RAN A RELAY RACE?
MUST NOT BE GETTING ENOUGH EXERCISE
2-A
Kiriga Mako, the principal's daughter. Apparently, she and Sarutobi Nikumaru have known each other from a very young age.
Lollipop

REHEHEAAAALLY!? THEN DO US ALL A FAVOR AND REPEAT THE NINE COMPONENTS TO AN INVISIBILITY TECHNIQUE RIGHT THIS MOMENT!!
I AM LISTENING!!
LISTEN TO THE FARGIN' LESSON, LARDO!!
TOK TOK TOK
BWAH!!
NGH!!
AMAZING, NIKUMARU-KUN!!
BYOU (TACTIC)
TOU (BATTLE)
SHA (PERSON)
KAI (ALL)
JIN (POSITION)
RETSU (SPLIT)
ZAI (PRESENCE)
ZEN (BEYOND)
RIN. (VISION)
HOW ABSENT-MINDED DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO FORGET THAT...
DUDE, THEY'RE WRITTEN ON THE BOARD. ANYONE COULD'VE GOTTEN THAT.
AHEM!! CORRECT. HOWEVER, ENSURE NOT TO NEGLECT YOUR STUDIES, CLASS.
HAH!!

Taez Blank Answer Pages
ALRIGHT, CLASS, TIME FOR THE POP QUIZ FROM HELL!!
MAYBE HE'S FINALLY CRACKED FROM ALL THE PRESSURE!?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HIM NOW!?
HEHE-HEHEH!!
HA-HAHA!!
THAT'S WHAT I ORIGINALLY HAD PLANNED. HOWEVER, TO SPICE THINGS UP A LITTLE BIT BEFOREHAND
NO WAYYYY
HUUUUUH?
100 PERCENT!!
SARUTOBI'S LUNCH!!
SHOCK
TAKING SARUTOBI'S LUNCH FROM HIM INSTANTLY EARNS YOU A 100% GRADE FOR THIS TEST.
WHAT!?
Book Textbook
KYOKA SHO-
YOINK!
AH!
DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY...
WH-WHY ARE YOU GUYS LOOKING AT US LIKE THAT!?
CRAP!

TRUE. WELL, IF YOU MANAGE TO PROTECT YOUR LUNCH, I THINK HAVING THE REST OF THE CLASS' LUNCHES ALL TO YOURSELF SHOULD SUFFICE!!
HAVE YOU NO HONOR, GOOD SIRE!? WOULDN'T YOU AGREE THAT THE ODDS ARE CERTAINLY AGAINST ME WITH NO MOTIVATION IN SIGHT!?
TENSE...
WHOEVER SAID THIS WAS A JOKE!?
SENSEI, THIS JOKE HAS GONE ON FOR LONG ENOUGH!!
EEEEEEEK!!
SKIRTSCAPE TECHNIQUE!!
VWOOSH
HEY, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE POKING YOUR HEADS!!
CRAP, HE'S GETTING AWAY!!
KBORGH!
DON'T GO BACK ON THOSE WORDS!!
WHONK
DON'T FOLLOW HIM THROUGH MY SKIRT, YOU FREAKS!!
FORGET ABOUT THAT!! SARUTOBI'S MAKING A BREAK FOR IT!!


AHA...

NO IDEA!! HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN VERY FAR, THOUGH!!
ANYBODY SEE WHERE HE WENT!?

MORON!! ANYBODY WOULD NOTICE YOU HIDING THERE!!

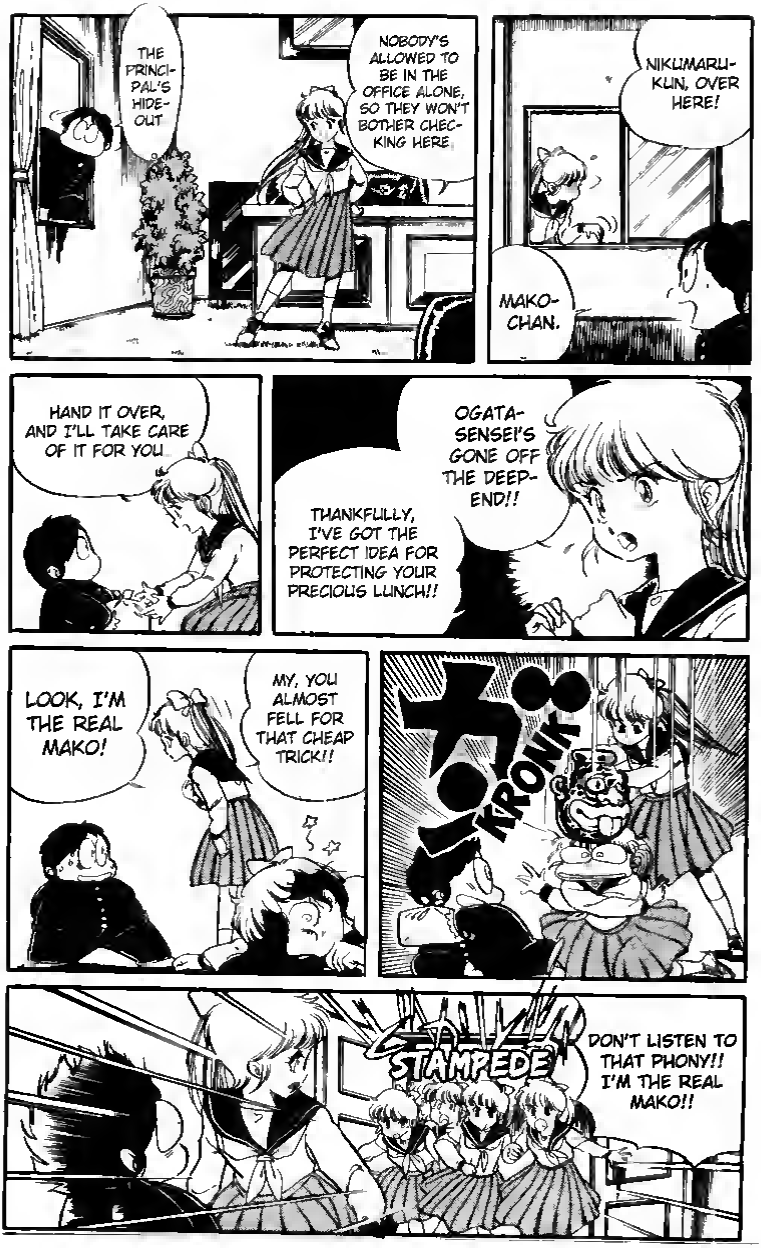
HUH!?
KNOCK KNOCK

Silence

KON KON KON

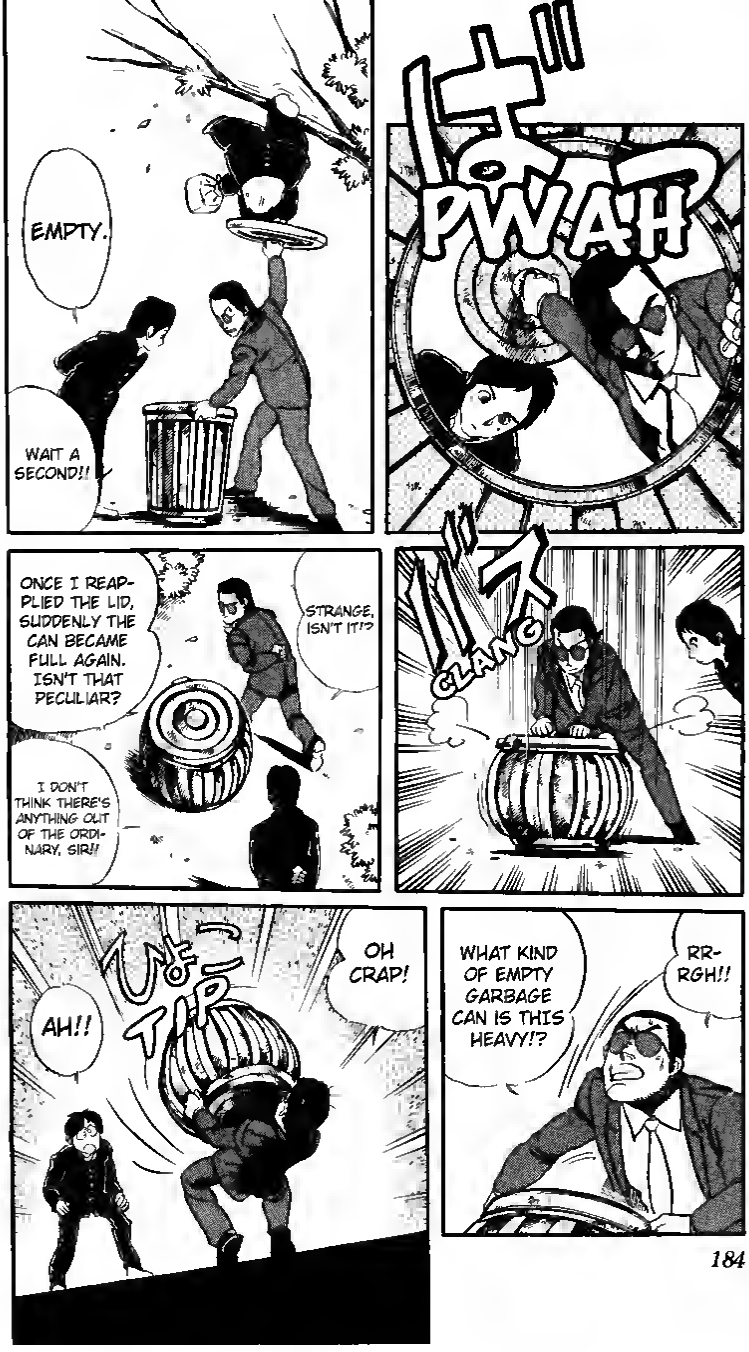
NO FWAP
CLOSE, BUT NO CIGAR!!

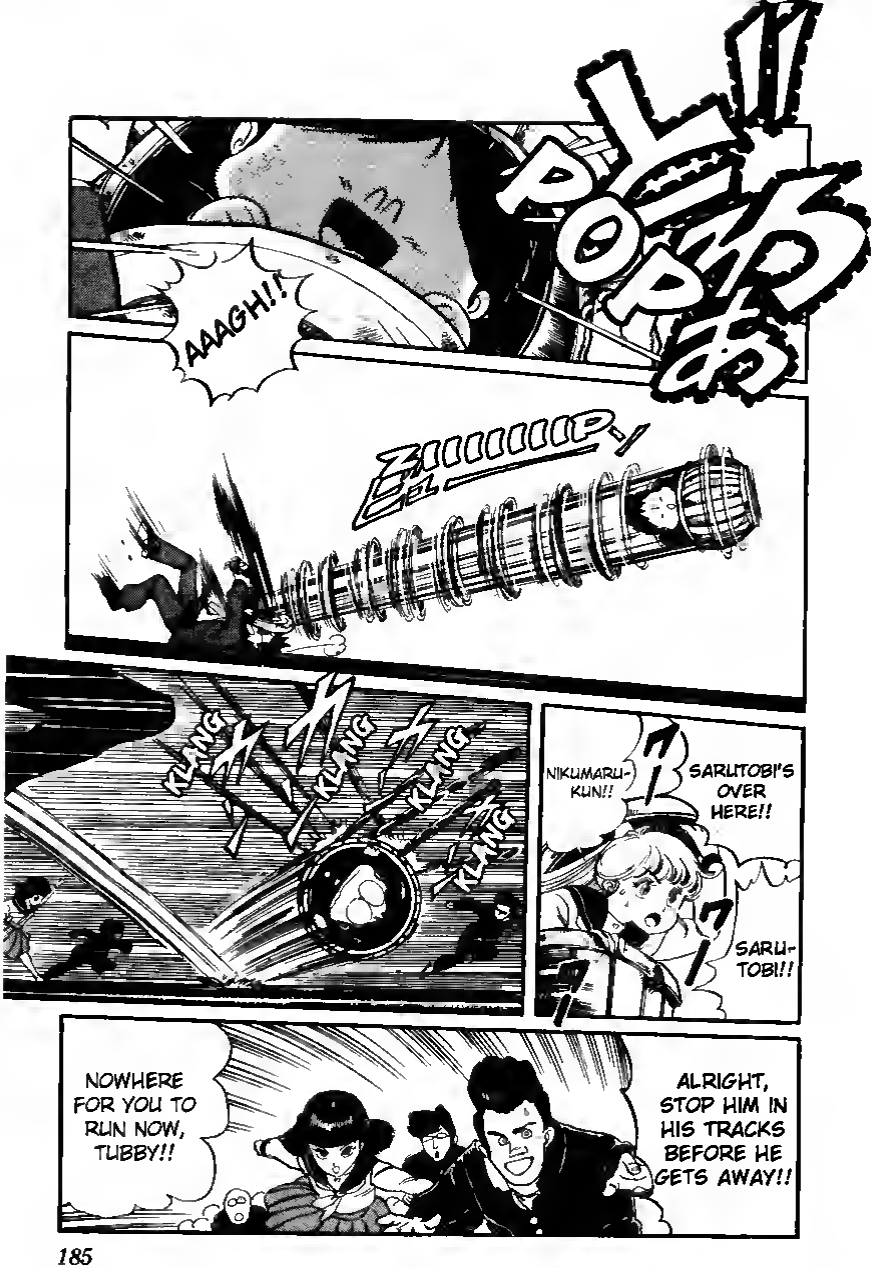
...
NO LUCK, LOOKS LIKE THAT TREE'S NATURALLY BULGING.

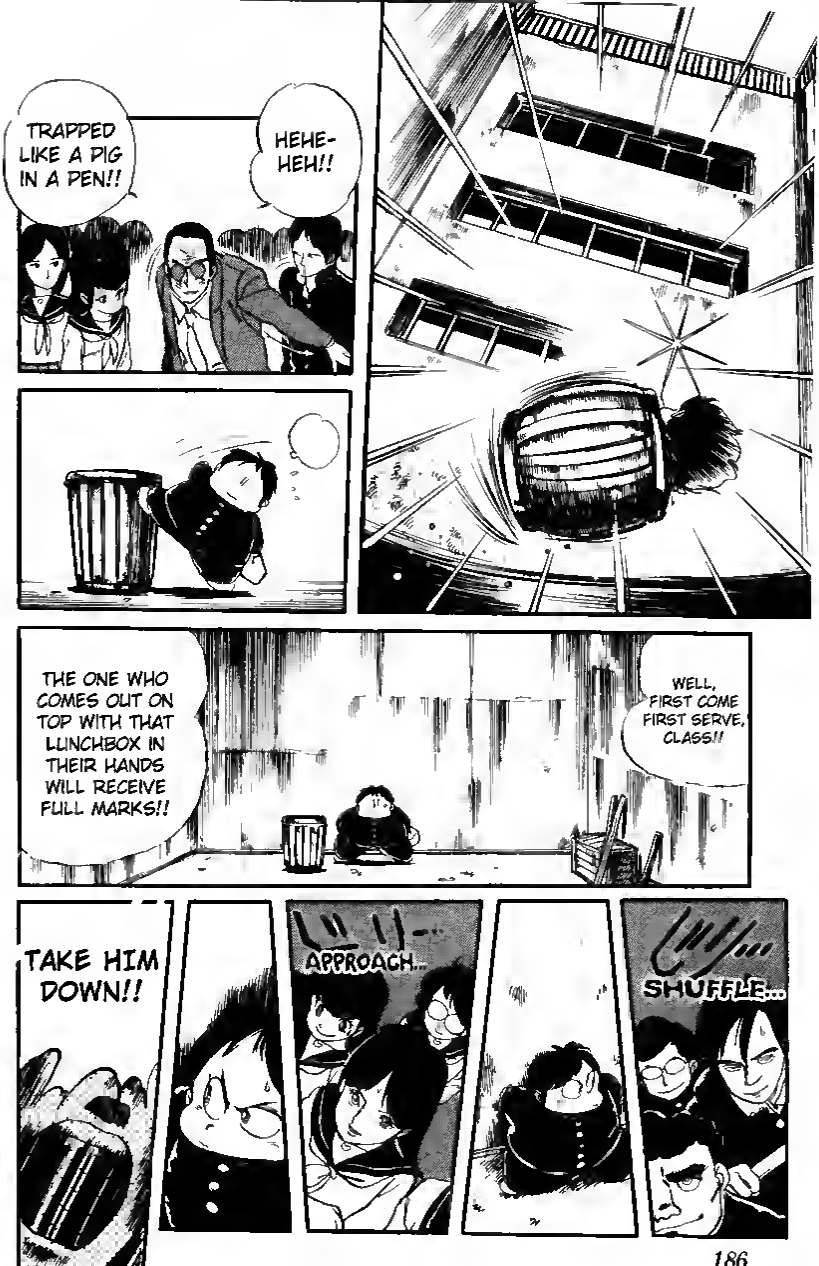

THE PRINCI-PAL'S HIDE-OUT
NOBODY'S ALLOWED TO BE IN THE OFFICE ALONE, SO THEY WON'T BOTHER CHEC-KING HERE.
NIKUMARU-KUN, OVER HERE!
MAKO-CHAN.
HAND IT OVER, AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT FOR YOU.
OGATA-SENSEI'S GONE OFF THE DEEP-END!!
THANKFULLY, I'VE GOT THE PERFECT IDEA FOR PROTECTING YOUR PRECIOUS LUNCH!!
LOOK, I'M THE REAL MAKO!
MY, YOU ALMOST FELL FOR THAT CHEAP TRICK!!
KRONK
STAMPEDE
DON'T LISTEN TO THAT PHONY!! I'M THE REAL MAKO!!

I'M SETTLING THIS RIGHT NOW! THE REAL MAKO WOULD BE WEARING WHITE PANTIES WITH A SINGLE STRAWBERRY ON THE FRONT!!
DON'T YOU DARE TELL ME I'M NOT THE REAL DEAL!! LISTEN TO YOUR HEART!!
CAN'T YOU TELL, I'M MAKO!!
UMM-MM!!
PERVERT!!
SLAP!
AH!!
NO FAIR, CHEATER!!
WELL, THAT SOLVED THAT SITUATION!!

THINK ABOUT HIS PHYSIQUE. THERE'S ONLY SO MANY PLACES HE COULD SUCCESSFULLY CONCEAL HIMSELF WITHOUT BEING RIDICULOULSY OBVIOUS!!
I KNOW... HOWEVER, SARUTOBI IS INARGUABLY THE BEST THERE IS AT RUNNING AWAY..
THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT.
THEN OUTSMART HIM!!
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY STILL TRYING TO CAPTURE IT!?
Obvious
CYLINDRICAL OBJECTS: DRUMCANS, POLYETHYLENE BUCKETS... USE YOUR IMAGINATION...
LIKE WHAT...!?
YEAH... CHECK IT OUT!!
SHALL I OPEN IT?
GULP
INDEED, THAT FIRST CAN LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING MASSIVE'S BEEN CRAMMED INSIDE.
WHAT ABOUT THOSE GARBAGE CANS?
SOMETHING'S OFF ABOUT IT...


EMPTY.
WAIT A SECOND!!
PWAH
ONCE I REAPPLIED THE LID, SUDDENLY THE CAN BECAME FULL AGAIN. ISN'T THAT PECULIAR?
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY, SIR!!
STRANGE, ISN'T IT!?
CLANG
AH!!
OH CRAP!
WHAT KIND OF EMPTY GARBAGE CAN IS THIS HEAVY!?
RRRGH!!


POP!!
AAAGH!!
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
NIKUMARU-KUN!!
SARUTOBI'S OVER HERE!!
SARU-TOBI!!
NOWHERE FOR YOU TO RUN NOW, TUBBY!!
ALRIGHT, STOP HIM IN HIS TRACKS BEFORE HE GETS AWAY!!


TRAPPED LIKE A PIG IN A PEN!!
HEHE-HEH!!
THE ONE WHO COMES OUT ON TOP WITH THAT LUNCHBOX IN THEIR HANDS WILL RECEIVE FULL MARKS!!
WELL, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE, CLASS!!
TAKE HIM DOWN!!
APPROACH...
SHUFFLE...

WELL!? NIKU-MARU...
DO YOU EXPECT ME TO HAND THIS BACK NOW THAT YOU'VE GIVEN IT TO ME!?
DOOOOOONG
DAAAAAANG
DOOOOONG
DIIIING
...
TFT
TFT
TFT
TFT

NIKUMARU-KUN...
POP!
WHOEVER SAID THAT BOX CONTAINED MY LUNCH IN THE FIRST PLACE?
MAKO-CHAN.
EVERYONE WAS AFTER YOUR IMPORTANT LUNCH-BOX! THEY WERE ALL SO SERIOUS, YOU COULD HAVE LOST YOUR LIFE OUT THERE!!
HOW CRUEL!!
I KNEW THIS WHOLE IDEA WAS ROTTEN FROM THE START!! ROTTEN I TELLS YA!!
DAMMIT!!
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!

Project Bite Me! Scanlations

MANGA: THE ACADEMY OF NINJAS

TRANSLATOR: STEALTH MOMO CLEANER: REETH

TYPESETTER: SMOKEY QUALITY CHECKER: YAZAWA

Email: ProjectBiteMe@yahoo.com Website: www.projectbitemescans.blogspot.com

NOT FOR SALE